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INTER-ASIAN AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

AID TO SRI LANKA--Tokyo, 12 Nov (KYODO)--Japan will extend to Sri Lanka grant aid up to yen 2,000 million for the purchase of fertilizer necessary for increased food production, the Foreign Ministry said Wednesday. Notes to the effect were exchanged in Colombo on Tuesday between Kazuo Chiba, Japanese Ambassador to Sri Lanka, and W.M. Tilakaratna, secretary, Ministry of Finance and Planning of Sri Lanka. [Text] [0W161337 Tokyo KYODO in English 0234 GMT 12 Nov 80]

CSO: 4220

AUSTRALIA

BRIEFS

AUSTRALIAN AID TO VANUATU--Australia is to help equip a riot and insurgency control police unit in the South Pacific Republic of Vanuatu. The defense minister, Mr Killen, announced that Australia had agreed to provide weapons, uniforms, tents, vehicles and communications equipment for 120 men selected to make up the police unit. Some of the equipment has already been dispatched in an Australian Air Force Hercules which will also transport the unit to Papua New Guinea this weekend for training in the Papua New Guinea defense force. [Text] [Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 31 Oct 80]

AUSTRALIAN ASSISTANCE TO ZIMBABWE--Australia will help Zimbabwe improve its secondary education system. Zimbabwe is facing a shortage of trained teachers and has asked Australia to contribute toward the cost of engaging school teachers. The Department of Foreign Affairs said in a statement released in Canberra that Australia had agreed to supplement the cost of recruiting Australian school teachers for 2 years until the end of the 1982 school year. [Text] [Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 11 Nov 80]

CSO: 4220

'VOPB' REPORTS COMBAT NEWS FROM NORTH, EAST

BK141010 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Burma in Burmese to Burma 0030 GMT
14 Nov 80

[Text] Combat News:

On 19 October, a unit from the People's Army launched a surprise attack on an enemy camp in (Tang Kaw), northern Wa State, killing six enemy troops and wounding five others including a deputy commander. On the evening of 29 October, a small unit of the People's Army blew up the enemy's (Mili) communication bridge between Sai Law and (Tawanyan) on the Chipwe-Waign-Maw highway, northeast of Myitkyina. On 3 November, mines planted by the People's Army killed one and wounded some of the enemy troops who came to clear the bridge.

On 4 November, a mine attack by a small unit of the People's Army on the Mong Yang-Mong Lwe highway wounded two enemy troops. On 6 November, an ambush by a small unit of the People's Party on the military government's 109th light infantry regiment at (Tawantzu) in Kokang region killed one enemy and wounded another. On the following day, 7 November, a mine attack by the People's Army on Kyet-u-Taung Mountain in Keng Tung region wounded two enemy troops.

Combat News of the Kayah New Land Revolutionary Council [KNLRC]:

On 1 October, a small unit of the KNLRC launched a guerrilla attack on the second column of the military government's mercenary 85th infantry regiment on top of (Phutaung) Mountain in (Sekho) township. The attack killed one enemy and wounded another. On 5 October, a mine attack by a small KNLRC unit near (Nampong) in Pinlaung township wounded four enemy troops. On 13 October, an attack by a small KNLRC unit on (Kyi Sawng Haik) hill in (Sekho) township killed one enemy and wounded two others.

CSO: 4211

MOVE FOR PRESIDENTIAL SYSTEM CRITICIZED

CPI Leader's Remarks

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 27 Oct 80 p 10

[Text] VJAYAWADA, Oct 26 (PTI)

THE general secretary of the Communist Party of India, Mr C Rajawara Rao, said today that Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was trying to bring in presidential form of Government to "perpetuate her own authoritarian rule."

Explaining the resolutions adopted at the three-day conference of the party's national council here, Mr Rao told newsmen that majority of the lawyers who attended the Delhi conference were "screened" and "they are expected to support the ideas thrown up by Mrs Gandhi."

He said his party, along with other Opposition parties, was determined to oppose such moves,

both within the Parliament and outside.

On the ever-increasing prices of all of the party felt that Mrs Gandhi commended the presidential form of Government as an effective instrument to end anarchy and chaos as a 'cloak' for hiding her own ambitions.

While warning the people against this 'danger,' the party called upon the left democratic forces to join together and defeat the move.

On the ever-increasing prices of all essential commodities and unemployment, Mr Rao said the council felt that the present Government was continuing its, pro-capitalist policy. The resolution on this said the Government

being compelled to sell at Rs 70 per quintal.

Explaining his party's position further, Mr Rao said in the last three months—the festival season—the sugar mills had made Rs 150 crore profit.

While helping the monopolists and big traders to "fleece" the people through the price rise is also assisting, them to loot the peasants by not fixing an ensuring remunerative prices for their, produce."

On the prices of sugar and paddy, the resolution said though the support price of paddy was fixed at Rs 105 per quintal, no Government agency was lifting the entire marketable paddy at this rate and the farmers were

Raj Narain's Comment

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 27 Oct 80 p 10

[Text] By prescribing the Presidential form of Government, the All-India Lawyers' Conference, at which the "back seat driving was done by the Government," has tried to ensure that the Government escapes accountability to Parliament for its "misdeeds in the past 10 months," Mr Raj Narain said in a statement on Sunday.

The implied plea was that Parliament was a hindrance to efficient administration or progressive legislation, the Janata (S) leader

added.

Holding the conference meant that the "Government and its henchmen" were finding the going difficult and were convinced that they must subvert the present system, resorting to extraordinary measures, in order to continue in office, Mr Narain said.

The Presidential form "that is being contemplated" would make nonsense of the federal structure, "which is the basic feature of our Constitution", in view of the Government's onslaught on the auto-

nomy of the States, he warned.

"It is strange," Mr Narain said, that the Prime Minister of the country should sponsor a move to bring the Constitution and the Parliamentary system into contempt.

Questioning the "presumptuousness" of the conference "to prescribe rules of conduct for the Opposition," he said no Opposition leaders were invited to it with though the role of the Opposition under discussion.

CPM PROTESTS BENGAL ELECTION POSTPONEMENT

New Delhi PAIRIOT in English 26 Oct 80 p 1

[Text]

The central committee of the CP-M has protested sharply against the decision of the Election Commission to postpone the by-election to one Lok Sabha constituency and six Assembly seats in West Bengal scheduled to be held on 23 November.

In a statement on Saturday the party said the Election Commission had succumbed to "political pressure" from the West Bengal Congress-I and "exhibited its usual contempt to democratic processes."

The "sudden and arbitrary" decision of the commission will inordinately delay the byelections in the State because of census operations, the harvesting season from November to February, the budget session of the Assembly from February middle, and subsequently the monsoon from June, the Central committee said.

It charged the commission with changing the schedule solely on

the basis of representation made by the West Bengal Congress-I without consulting the State Government "whose concurrence had earlier been obtained for the 23 November schedule."

Describing a "grossly baseless" the Congress-I charge, on whose basis the schedule has been disturbed, that the electoral rolls in the State were defective, the central committee said the Election Commission had itself published the rolls after being satisfied that they were in order.

Before publishing the rolls the commission had sent its own team to look into certain complaints of the rolls being defective. A special revision of the rolls had been made in January the central committee added.

It called on "all democratic elements" to record their protest against the decision of postponing the byelections.

WPC'S ROMESH CHANDRA ADDRESSES PRESS CONFERENCE

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 10 Oct 80 p 10

[Text]

PRESIDENT of the World Peace Council Romesh Chandra on Wednesday said that in the present international context, India's role had become more crucial and vital than ever before which was believed by most of the world leaders and people.

But efforts were being made by the "US-China-Pakistan axis" to encircle India militarily so that not only its own sovereignty was threatened but also it could be prevented from playing that anti-war role. Mr Chandra added, while addressing a press conference.

The Iran-Iraq war was being used by the US to increase its military strength in the Gulf countries and in the Indian Ocean. The so-called rapid deployment of US force, he said, threatened world peace and the independence of Asian and African countries under the pretext of defending the US interests. India must take a bold and clear stand to demand the immediate dismantling of the Diego Garcia base and act to ensure the dismantling of all other bases in the Gulf and Indian Ocean, including the new US bases in Oman, Somalia and Kenya, he said.

The World Peace Council fully supported the efforts by India together with other non-aligned

movement for an end to the Iraq-Iran war. It also supported the Mauritius demand that the Diego Garcia be given back to Mauritius. The Diego Garcia had become the biggest US nuclear and naval base outside the territory of the NATO countries, he pointed.

Never since the end of the Second World War, he said, had the danger of war been as great as it was today. The major responsibility for this grave situation "rests on the US administration and the military-industrial complex". The most aggressive forces of the NATO and the Chinese expansionists in the aggravation of the international situation is creating the foundation of a new cold war and intensifying the arms buildup to heights never reached before which had threatened the process of detente. Mr Romesh Chandra said.

The World Peace Council welcomed the coming visit to India of President Leonid Brezhnev.

INDIA

OPPOSITION LEADER ASSAILS GANDHI

HK181441 New Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 12 Nov 80 p 7

[Excerpta] New Delhi, 11 Nov--The Bharatiya Janata Party president, Mr Atal Behari Vajpayee, today condemned the prime minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi's recent "vituperations" against the Non-Cong-1 governments of West Bengal, Kerala and Jammu and Kashmir and her "unbalanced attacks" on the opposition.

"Never in the past has any prime minister indulged in public denunciation of state governments in this manner," he said at a news conference today.

He also charged Mrs Gandhi with whipping up an "emergency like" situation to conceal her government's failure on all fronts. "The strident tone of Mrs Gandhi's vitriol is disturbingly reminiscent of her emergency eve utterances." The promulgation of the national security ordinance simultaneously with the unleashing of the anti-opposition tirade "only lends edge to the concern generated."

The BJP chief described as "absolutely correct" the analysis made by the Australian high commissioner, Mr Upton, about Mrs Gandhi's total failure on the administrative and economic front. This reflected perception of our internal affairs widely held by foreign observers. This view also debunked Mrs Gandhi's claim that under her country's prestige had been rising in the eyes of the world. But, Mr Vajpayee did not agree with Mr Upton's conclusion that this state of affairs would tempt the army to step in and capture power.

Mr Vajpayee said the paralysis in the process of decision-making in Mrs Gandhi's government was reflected in her keeping Mr Kamalapati Tripathi in "suspended animation" for a fortnight and earlier keeping the Andhra chief minister, Mr Chenna Reddy, in a similar situation for over 2 months.

CSG: 4720

SECURITY AGENCIES DISCOVER PLOT IN KASHMIR

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 23 Oct 80 p 4

[Text] Srinagar, Oct 24--Security agencies have reportedly unearthed a sinister plot to provoke communal trouble in Kashmir Valley last week and arrested about half a dozen local youths who are being interrogated in this connection.

While officials have been tightlipped, unofficial reports claimed that "objects resembling plastic bombs" had been seized from a group of arrested persons.

At the same time, Sheikh Tajamul Islam, president of the militant Jamaite Tullaha and Mohammad Farooq, chief of "People's League" are stated to have been shifted here from Jammu jail. They are also being questioned though it could not be immediately ascertained whether they too were suspected to be involved in the plot.

Tajamul and Farooq were detained under the Public Safety Act during crackdown on extremist elements in the valley in August.

Reliable reports said that four persons, some of them belonging to People's League had been nabbed from a local restaurant and that they were found to be in possession of 'plastic bombs.' Their arrest took place immediately before the scheduled ceremonial celebration of Dussehra festival in which a large number of people including some VIPs participated.

Link Suspected

The venue of the celebrations is only a short distance away from the restaurant from where suspected persons were held.

The reports said that two Nepalese carrying daggers were also held on that day. Security agencies are inquiring into whether the two cases were linked in any way.

About a month ago a "plastic bomb" had been recovered from the bathroom of a cinema house in Lalchowk area. One person was arrested for having hurled some object at President Sanjiva Reddy's car during his one day visit here last week. No official comment is available regarding that incident nor is there any confirmation of the nature of the object thrown at the presidential vehicle. Inquiries are also made to find out if these incidents were part of some conspiracy and to locate the source behind preparation of the reported "plastic bombs."

NAGA LEADER REPORTED FORMING 'THIRD FORCE'

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA 11 English 23 Oct 80 p 5

[Article by V.I.K. Sarin: "Naga Rebel Bid to Form Third Force"]

[Text]

GAUHATI, October 22.

THE China-trained Naga "general", Mowu Angami, has broken away from the "federal" group of the erstwhile underground Naga movement and is busy regrouping his guerrillas as a third force in the Naga hills.

Tall, ruggedly handsome 43-year-old Mowu Angami was recently "elected" vice-president of the Naga National Council (NNC), the political arm of the erstwhile underground Nages, at a secret convocation of former underground "army commanders" on the outskirts of Dispur, Nagaland's railhead.

The post of president was allowed to remain vacant, thereby acknowledging Mr. A. Z. Phizo, father of the underground movement, who is now residing in a London suburb, as their chief in absentia.

The Mowu group, while acknowledging Mr. Phizo as its guide and philosopher, has decided to be equidistant between the "federal" group, which has signed the Shillong peace accord of November 11, 1975, accepting a position within the Indian constitution, and the pro-Peking, Muivah-Isakhuo faction.

The pro-Peking faction is camping on the other side of the India-Burma border with the declared object of continuing their struggle for "independent Nagaland" after having repudiated the Shillong agreement and disowned Mr. Phizo.

The "federal" group, as was expected, has disowned its one-time "commander-in-chief" and declared his "election" as vice-president of the NNC as "unconstitutional" and "invalid."

"NEW ORGANISATION"

This group, being recruited to the fact of Nagaland being an integral part of India, had recently "expelled" Mr. J. Muivah, general secretary of the NNC, Mr. Isak Shu, a former "foreign minister" of "the Naga federal government," from the party for pursuing "anti-Naga policies."

Mr. Muivah and Mr. Shu had, on the other hand, "disassociated" themselves from the NNC and mobilised their China-trained guerrillas under a new organisation, the National Socialist Council of Nagas (NSCN).

"General" Mowu Angami, leader of the emerging third force, joined the Naga underground movement in 1955 and accompanied the then underground "commander-in-chief," "general" Thungpu Chang, to Dacca, capital of erstwhile East Pakistan (now Bangladesh), to solicit Pakistani support for the underground cause in December, 1956.

There he caught the fancy of Mr. Phizo, who detailed him back to the Naga hills on a top secret mission. But he was nabbed by the security forces on August 10, 1957, in North Cachar before he could reach Nagaland.

He was released in October, 1957, under a general amnesty declared by the Assam government. Soon he disappeared into the jungle to join the new "commander-in-chief," Kaito Sema, as his trusted deputy.

In May, 1962, Mowu Angami accompanied "general" Kaito Sema to Karachi for consultations with Mr. Phizo. In September, they flew out to London for further discussions with Mr. Phizo. The two leaders of the Naga insurgency returned to Nagaland in April, 1963, along with a batch of

1,000 Naga guerrillas, trained in East Pakistan. When Kaito Sema revolted against the political leadership of the "federal" group in the middle of 1965, Mowu Angami was promoted as "chief" of the "Naga federal army."

He led a second batch of 150 underground Nages to Yunnan, China, in December, 1967. He was captured along with his main column of insurgents by the security forces near Zuehien on March 15, 1968, days after his return from their year-long stay in China. Mowu Angami spent some seven years in Indian prisons before he was released in the wake of the Shillong peace accord.

Although Mowu Angami was not a signatory to the Shillong accord, he was known to have backed it just for failure of the "federal" leaders to frame the terms for disarming with New Delhi, as stipulated in clause 1 of the agreement. It is understood to have disenchanted him and his supporters.

The hard-line approach adopted by the pro-Peking has a group and the danger posed by their present line of thinking has further convinced Mowu Angami the need for regrouping his men as a third force. It is learnt.

While Mowu's admiration and respect for Mr. Phizo is well known, it is not known if he has the blessings of the latter in his move to regroup his group of China-trained guerrillas. Observers of the Naga scene do not completely rule out the possibility of Mr. Phizo's covert support to the move.

According to reports reaching here, Mowu Angami has of late been raising funds and regrouping his forces. He is stated to have enlisted the support of another erstwhile underground "commander," Santha Ao.

VALIDITY OF DETENTION ORDER CHALLENGED

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 24 Oct 80 p 5

[Text]

BOMBAY, October 23.

THE validity and the vires of the Maharashtra ordinance No. 7 of 1980 for "prevention of communal, anti-social and other dangerous activities" are challenged in a habeas corpus petition filed in the Bombay high court by Ashok Baloba Dumbre, an elected municipal councillor of Pandharpur in Solapur district, detained in pursuance of an order of detention, dated September 12, 1980, passed by the Solapur district magistrate.

The contention of the petitioner is that the ordinance contravenes amendments made in the constitution by the 44th amendment act. The petitioner has attacked sub-section (2) of section (1) of the act empowering the Central government to appoint different dates for bringing into force different provisions of the act.

It is the petitioner's submission that section (9) of the impugned ordinance contravenes the provisions in section (3) of the 44th amendment act and the entire ordinance is, therefore, liable to be quashed and struck down as unconstitutional.

EXECUTIVE'S WILL

Stating that all provisions of the 44th amendment act, except those in section (3), have been brought into force by the Central government, the petitioner contended that the enforcement of a provision in a bill passed by Parliament and assented to by the President cannot be left to the sweet

will of the executive.

The grievance made by the petitioner is that the impugned ordinance "taken away or abridges" the fundamental right in article 22 enlarged by section (3) of the 44th amendment act. Whereas all the laws for preventive detention at present in operation in the country conformed to the provisions in section (3) of the act in respect of the constitution of the advisory boards, the petitioner contended, the impugned ordinance was the only exception which did not conform to those provisions.

The petitioner said that his father had unsuccessfully contested the last assembly election and earned the ire of the elected candidate and that the latter and other influential elements inimical to the petitioner's family, were harassing the family by making criminal complaints against its members.

The petitioner said that his father had lodged a complaint of alleged assault in the police station on his brother Anil, an undertrial, following which criminal complaints had been filed against his father. He said that the grounds for his detention as communicated to him were "rumour and a concoction" made by the Pandharpur police hostile to his family and wrongly relied upon by the detaining authority.

Mr. Justice C. S. Dharmadhikari and Mr. Justice B. J. Rale admitted the petition and granted a rule returnable by November 21.

Mr. M. A. Rane appeared for the petitioner.

ARMY ARRESTS KEY INSURGENT IN MANIPUR

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 29 Oct 80 pp 1, 9

[Article by Sumanta Sen]

[Text] Imphal, Oct. 28.--Mr Raghunani Singh, said to be an important member of the People's Liberation Army and who had been operating from underground was arrested during a pre-dawn swoop by the Army in the Singjamei area of Imphal town today. Raghunani, it is learnt belongs to the first group of PLA members and had received his political training in China. According to informed sources here, there are only about 38 others in the organization who enjoy that distinction.

Today's combing operation was the first in Imphal town since the counter insurgency operation began about a month ago.

According to Army sources, Singjamei shelters a numbers of PLA activists and sympathizers and at least four leading figures, including Bisheswar Singh, founder-member of the organization have their residences here.

Today's operation began at 4 a.m. when the entire area was cordoned off and curfew imposed. House-to-house search by Army began an hour later.

The Army allowed examinees to proceed to their examination centres and kept a port ready for taking sick people to hospital to convince the local people that the operation was solely against PLA and not meant to inconvenience others.

The Army had specific information about Raghunani's presence in Singjamei and went straight to his house to catch him unawares. He was identified by a man. His interrogation has begun and will continue.

News of the curfew and search at Singjamei was broadcast over All India Radio's Manipur station soon after the operation began so that people in Imphal town would know that they had to keep out of the area.

On Friday 10 Manipuri youths, belonging to the Imphal Valley and believed to be members of the underground People's Liberation Army, were arrested by the Burmese Army near the border with India and handed over to the Indian authorities, according to information received from Army sources here.

The arrested Manipuris have been brought here and are being interrogated in turn by the Army and police. Cooperation from Burma was sought some time ago by India to enable it to conduct successfully its counter-insurgency operation in the north-eastern States after it was found that rebels from these places often took shelter in Burma.

Top priority is being given to the question of containing the People's Liberation Army in Manipur and the Army units here have been strengthened with the induction of troops and officers from other States. Arrangements for airlifting troops to areas where PLA men are reported to be active have also been made.

Talks are under way with the State Government for forming joint commands with police and para-military forces for more effective combining operations and also for having a wider intelligence network.

The Army is thinking of associating the Central Reserve Police. However, even if other forces are associated in the operation, the basic command will lie with the Army.

It is learnt that Mr Bisheswar Singh, founder of the Peoples Liberation Army in Manipur was seriously wounded in a recent armed encounter with the Army. Still underground, he is stated to have been operated upon. He had his political training with the Chinese at Lhasa which he visited four years ago.

According to Army officers here, all the arrested PLA men in course of interrogation, indicated that Bisheswar was the only man in the organization whom they had complete faith. Officials here doubt whether his lieutenants will be able to sustain the movement if he dies from his wounds and asthma of which he is a chronic patient. There are others, however, who feel the movement has gathered sufficient momentum and is not dependent for its continuance on any individual.

The People's Liberation Army men arrested so far did not, according to informed sources, account for such organizational hierarchy. Questioned why they joined the PLA, they have reportedly made statements on virtues of Maoism which have apparently been driven into them by their mentors. At the same time, however, they have not betrayed any intelligence reports which might be useful to the administration.

UNI adds: Two shops were set ablaze this evening at Thangal Bazar in Imphal by some unidentified people.

The fire was, however, extinguished by firemen before much damage was done. Police have started an inquiry.

CSO: 4220

DELEGATE ADDRESSES DISARMAMENT COMMITTEE

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 27 Oct 80 p 3

[Text] United Nations, Oct 26 (Reuter). India yesterday denounced the 'nuclear feudalism' sought to be perpetuated by the nuclear weapons States through an inequitable Non-Proliferation Treaty.

Mr Sat Paul Mittal, member of the Indian delegation, who was speaking in the main political committee of the General Assembly on disarmament also rejected Pakistan's proposal, revived in the current session, for the establishment of a nuclear weapon free zone in South Asia and its call for a "balanced ratio" in the maintenance of armed forces between India and Pakistan.

He assured the Soviet Union that its new item on "certain measures for reducing the danger of war" would be given the "most earnest consideration" by India.

Reiterating India's opposition to the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty as it stood today, Mr Mittal said if the Indian proposal on non-proliferation made as early as 1964 calling for "an acceptable balance of mutual responsibilities and obligations on nuclear and non-nuclear States" had been followed, the world would have had a workable non-proliferation agreement. "Unfortunately, however, if in the course of the finalization of the Non-Proliferation Treaty in 1968 this concept was deliberately altered," he said. "If we have before us today, an unworkable NPT document, this is because of the narrow and illogical approach which has been adopted of concentration only on the question of horizontal proliferation."

Mr Mittal deplored the tendency on the part of the weapons States to look with suspicion at the peaceful nuclear activities of non-nuclear weapon States while disregarding their own escalated activities at weapons proliferation. This, along with the assumption of the 'cartel' type approach such as embodied in the London nuclear suppliers club and attempts to impose fullscope safeguards and discriminatory constraints on peaceful uses of nuclear energy "would seem to be directed towards perpetuating a kind of nuclear feudalism which is unrealistic, illogical and unacceptable."

N-Free Zone

Regarding Pakistan's revived proposal for a nuclear weapon free zone in South Asia, he said South Asia was an integral part of Asia and the Pacific. To define

a proposal in terms of an artificial sub-region such as South Asia would not only be misleading but also counter-productive.

Rejecting the 'balance ratio of armed forces' proposal, the Indian delegate said: "we in India are fully conscious of the fact that in the imperfect world we live in, concern for basic security is natural and understandable, since the size of our own country necessitates a basic ability to withstand threats to the integrity of the nation which may emanate from any quarter." This was specially relevant in countries like India which had refused to align itself with any of the military blocs. Attempts to impose artificial strait jackets through concepts such as balanced ratios of armed forces in a purely bilateral context, is in the absence of an atmosphere of mutual trust and confidence between countries would be, to say the least, diplomatically unwise and political unproductive."
[as published]

CSO: 4220

GANDHI INAUGURATES DELHI LAWYERS CONFERENCE

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 26 Oct 80 pp 1, 5

[Text] **A**N overwhelming majority at the conference of lawyers on Saturday night favoured introduction of the presidential form of Government in the country replacing the cabinet system. The conference may adopt a resolution to this effect at its concluding session, reports UNL.

Inaugurating the two-day conference Prime Minister Indira Gandhi favoured a national debate on how far the parliamentary form of Government had served the needs of the people and whether any other model was suitable for the country.

The Prime Minister, however, refrained from expressing any opinion on whether the presidential form was more suited to India. She said that the presidential form in the United States and France had thrown up their own problems.

About 3,000 lawyers drawn from almost all the States attended the conference at the jam-packed main auditorium of Vigyan Bhawan. Mr Madan Bhatia, a senior Delhi advocate, was in the chair.

Minister for Law and Justice P Shiv Shanker, and Mrs Maneka Gandhi were also present.

The arguments held out in favour of the change-over included: power to secure for the government the best available talent even from outside Parliament, elimination of political defections — the bane of the present system — and the availability of more time to parties for organisational work.

Earlier, in his presidential address, Mr Madan Bhatia spoke of threat to democracy from satyagrahas, bandhs and similar extra-constitutional agitations.

He also made it clear that the sponsors of the conference did

not have any pre-conceived notion in favour of the presidential system. They only wanted to promote a countrywide discussion to make democracy purposeful.

Lok Dal general secretary Madhu Limaye was the first opposition leader to come out against the conference.

In a strongly-worded statement, he asked the intelligentsia to realise what he called a 'veiled attempt to impose an authoritarian regime.'

Mrs Gandhi said that she was getting many letters from friends in these countries seeking details about the functioning of the Westminster system in India in order to know whether it was better.

She was at a loss to understand why a section of lawyers was fighting shy of even debating the question. She had all respect for the founding fathers of the Constitution but one could not take the stand that its working could not at all be reviewed or amended.

Our staff reporter added: For an institution to survive and function effectively, it was necessary that it was constantly reviewed and examined by the knowledgeable persons, she added.

It was in this spirit that she welcomed the lawyers' conference which is to discuss the role of the opposition in a democracy and also to consider whether the present system had lost its re-

levance or whether there could be a better system of government she remarked.

Mrs Gandhi was, however, quick to point out that no system was perfect as the systems accepted as democratic by the western world themselves had many flaws and forms. Even the Presidential system of the United States had witnessed a constant war between the chief executive, the President, and the legislative wings, the Senate and the Congress. The French Presidential system too had undergone its share of crisis.

But, she added, the presidential system had been tried out with various measures of success in various countries.

The Prime Minister lambasted the opposition for, what she called, "its agitational politics" and sought the evolution of precepts and conventions that would apply to the opposition.

"Democracy and violence cannot co-exist," she said, adding that violent movements against a duly elected government only tended to destroy the democratic institutions in the country's body politics.

Mrs Gandhi was critical of those who were criticising the lawyers' meet. She felt it astonishing that many people, who swear by democracy, should shy away

from discussing a matter of public importance.

On the role of the opposition and the government, Mrs. Gandhi said the very foundation of democracy was based on the mutual recognition of their respective roles.

The opposition should allow only elected government to function for the prescribed period for which it has received the people's mandate.

Mr. Gandhi regretted that the opposition 'unfortunately do not understand that they too have a responsibility to perform.'

Hardly had the outcome of the last Lok Sabha elections become public when a prominent opposition leader had said the parliamentary system had become irrelevant she observed referring to a reported statement of former Prime Minister Charan Singh.

She deplored the violence indulged in by some of the opposition parties who caused strikes in industrial units, and indulged in vandalism. In the last context, she mentioned the current Himalaya car rally which had been marred by constant stone-throwing by Lok Dal workers all along the route.

Paying rich tribute to the fathers of the constitution, Mrs. Gandhi said while they had given what they thought was the best form of government to the country, everything they laid down need not be relevant for all time to come. A constant examination was the essence of a people's intellectual life.

Mr. C. Rajagopalachari had ex-

pressed serious reservations about the utility of adult franchise. Yet, she said, he was among the leading lights of Indian democracy.

Agencies add:

Democracy meant government chosen by the people reflecting their will. The constitution provided for orderly change of government, Mrs. Gandhi said. There were opportunities for parties and groups to convince people with their point of view and come to power.

Mrs. Gandhi said many felt the ideal democratic system existed only with two-party framework. This could be only in a football match. "Politics is not sports. It is a matter of nation's survival and growth," she added.

For historical reasons, a few countries had two party systems. They were exceptions. It was not correct to consider that they were more democratic.

What was necessary for a democracy to work was not mere number but all important parties should subscribe to some basic ideals and accept basic objectives. There should be agreement with the decision of the legislature and rejection of violence.

All India conference of lawyers president Madan Bhatia, put forward the view that the opposition in a parliamentary democracy should not take recourse to agitational politics which had its own rationale during the struggle against alien domination.

In his address to the conference Mr. Bhatia, observed that "The minority cannot forget that the party in majority had a constitutional mandate to govern the country for the period prescribed by the constitution."

Mr. Bhatia quoted the noted jurist Sir Ivor Jennings as having observed: "The minority agrees that the majority must govern and the majority agrees that the minority should criticize."

DELHI LAWYERS MEETING ENDS WITHOUT AGREEMENT

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 27 Oct 80 p 8

[Text] The two-day all-India conference of lawyers ended in a virtual anticlimax on Sunday with its sponsors failing to carry the delegates with them in favour of a switch-over from the present Westminster system to a presidential form of Government, reports UNI.

At the concluding session this afternoon, several delegates lodged a strong protest against the report of the chairman of a subcommittee on system of government that "the preponderant view" was that the presidential form was better suited to Indian conditions.

The chairman, Mr Lalit Bhasin, had released to the press on Saturday a brief report of the committee's findings before placing them at the plenary session.

When the report came up for adoption at the conference, scores of delegates rose on their feet and challenged this observation.

This obliged conference chairman Madan Bhatia to intervene and say that "the majority" in the committee had preferred the presidential system but no resolution was being adopted to that effect.

The delegates, however, agreed to his suggestion that the conference could be a permanent body and the debate on systems of Government should be carried on nationwide basis.

On the other issue listed in the agenda of the conference, "the role of the Opposition parties"--there was unanimity. The conference denounced the attempts of the Opposition parties to take to the politics of the street with a view to overthrowing an elected government.

By a third resolution, the conference decided to convert itself into a permanent body with Mr Madan Bhatia continuing as its chairman.

Earlier, at the subjects committee session, some members did not see any need for a change in the system of government.

They contended that the objectives of preservation of democracy, ensuring stability, integrity, social justice and rapid economic growth could be achieved under the present system itself.

A third view was that the best of both systems parliamentary and presidential-- could be adopted to evolve a democratic form of Government avoiding the pitfalls in both the systems and "tailoring one to suit our conditions and meet our requirements."

The general view that a debate should be conducted on national and international forums covering cross-sections of society to come to proper conclusions.
[as published]

CSO: 4220

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS GET TAX CUT

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 24 Oct 80 p 6

[Text] New Delhi, October 23--All research and development programmes having national relevance will get a weighted deduction in income-tax of an amount equal to 125 per cent of the expenditure incurred on them, according to an official announcement.

The programme should be approved by the secretary in the department of science and technology and relate to setting up of pilot plants or semi-commercial plants based on knowhow released from the National Research Development Corporation as well as full-scale trial or roving plants based on technology developed through programmes financed by the government.

Tax deduction will also be applicable to research and development programmes absorbing imported technology or relating to the development of a new source of energy or geared to improve the efficiency of the existing methods of energy generation and distribution as well as energy conservation or improving the existing processing and manufacturing techniques applied in agriculture and industry.

Basic Drugs

Programmes covered under this provision include development of watershed hydro-logic instruments and watershed management and flood control, better techniques for utilisation or recycling of wastes and for reducing or controlling pollution and developing new sources of nutritional food for human consumption.

Also covered are programmes related to the production of improved or cheaper basic drugs for the treatment of communicable diseases or more commonly prevalent human and animal diseases, new methods or cheaper techniques of family planning, discovery of new building materials, improved variety of fertilisers and plant nutrients and devising new manufacturing techniques or production of goods resulting in substantial conservation of foreign exchange by way of import substitution or export promotion.

Research and development programmes relating purely to market research, sales promotion, quality control, style changes and routine data collection will not qualify for the concession.

GANDHI INAUGURATES SCIENCE ACADEMY JUBILEE

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 24 Oct 80 p 9

(Text. Allahabad, October 23 (PTI)--The Prime Minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi, today clarified that the intention of setting up chain national laboratories was not to bring science under state control.

Inaugurating the golden jubilee of the national academy of sciences (NAS), Mrs Gandhi said: "The time has come to strengthen science in the university" without in any way affecting the work of the national laboratories.

She, however, justified the setting up of the national laboratories at a time when the country needed industrial infrastructure.

Mrs Gandhi said the policy of setting up the laboratories to create a large body of scientists and technologists had provided good dividends although "in the process the universities had weakened."

Sophisticated Research

She said the intention was not to bring science under the state. The government had to step in since the universities lacked financial resources for sophisticated research. [as published]

The days of Prof C. V. Raman, who made his discovery with simple instruments, were over and today's highly capital intensive research "brings the government into science in a big way."

The Prime Minister's remarks were apparently in reply to the Allahabad University vice-chancellor, Prof V. N. Singh, who earlier said that universities in India should not be allowed to starve but must be looked after well.

He said his university had been languishing for two decades.

Elaborating on the role of the government, Mrs Gandhi said science had to be planned and, the government should give careful attention to "sensible use" of science. "This is the major problem of the modern government."

Mrs Gandhi said she was in favour of inducting scientists into management, but decried the development of bureaucracy in their work. "This is not the spirit of science," she added.

She said scientists should not seek directives from the government. "Instead we expect ideas to flow from them."

Listing the tasks before the scientists, the Prime Minister said: Intensive and immediate work must be undertaken on renewable energy sources. Efforts should be made to eradicate water-borne diseases, leprosy and blindness.

Mrs Gandhi said science could not be confined to the laboratories or universities but must become part of education of all aspects of development.

Earlier, Mrs Gandhi was given a warm welcome on her arrival at Banrauli aerodrome. (as published) She was received by the U.P. chief minister, Mr V. P. Singh, the law minister, Mr Jagdish Prasad, the vice-chancellor of Allahabad University, Dr U.N. Singh and a number of legislators and prominent Congressmen.

From the aerodrome, Mrs Gandhi drove to the Hanuman temple below the historic fort of Akbar and spent about 20 minutes in the temple where she performed "puja."

A large number of men, women and children lined the 11-km route from the aerodrome to the temple. Shouts of "Indira Gandhi Zindabad" rent the air as her car passed.

A group of youth shouted anti-Mrs Gandhi slogans as the Prime Minister's car was proceeding from the airport to the temple.

New Delhi: The Prime Minister returned here this evening from Allahabad.

CSO: 4220

CENSUS-TAKING OPERATION TO BEGIN 9 FEBRUARY

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 6 Sep 80 p 7

[Text]

BOMBAY, Sept. 5—At sundown on February 28, 1981, an army of census enumerators will fan out into the cities and towns in search of beggars and "those who live without roofs over their heads". This is now the census authorities have planned to list beggars and pavement dwellers in the census operations which begin all over the country on February 9.

Mr. P. Padmanabha, Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India, told reporters here yesterday that counting the beggars and pavement dwellers in cities and towns was a difficult problem. The census authorities had devised a special plan for the purpose.

The enumerators working in the urban areas will begin operations on February 9. Till February 22, they will prepare a rough map of the blocks allotted to them for counting. During this period, they will roughly locate the areas where the beggars and pavement dwellers generally stay at night. They will then go out to count and list these people.

If necessary, police protection will be provided for the nocturnal operation, Mr. Padmanabha said.

The new feature of this year's census operation will be a sample survey on the process of migration and fertility among women. Mr. Padmanabha said. In about 20% of the blocks all over the country, en-

umerators will ask questions on migration and fertility.

Questions relating to housing ownership of land and restructuring of economic questions will be the other features of the census operation. These will provide valuable data regarding vital economic problems in the country.

The abstracts of the census results will be announced by March 20 and the detailed reports published by April 1981. Mr. Padmanabha said. An army of 1.25 million field staff will participate in the operation. The total expenses are estimated at about Rs. 40 crores. The operation will need about 5,000 metric tonnes of paper.

In spite of this, Mr. Padmanabha said, the census operations in the country will be fairly inexpensive compared to the cost in other countries. For example, in the U.S., census expenses amounted to \$4 per person. In India, this year's operation cost will be about 25 paise per person.

UNIVERSALIZATION OF EDUCATION NOT BEFORE 1990

Madras THE HINDU in English 3 Sep 80 p 3

[Text] New Delhi, Sept. 2--The goal of universalisation of education of children up to 14 years is now expected to be achieved only in 1990.

When the Janata Government assumed office in 1977, the State Education Ministers' conference had decided to reach this goal by the end of 1983-84. A year later, the target date was changed to 1985. The Sixth Plan, the framework of which has just been approved by the National Development Council, seeks to attain the goal in 10 years, which means the end of the Seventh Plan.

The new strategy envisages implementation of the programme in two distinct phases--the first covering primary education (classes I to V) for children in the age group of 6-11 to be completed by 1984-85 and middle school education (classes VI to VIII) for children in the age group of 11-14 to be achieved "near universally" by 1989-90.

The tentative projection to achieve this goal is that an additional enrolment of 17.1 million children (7.1 million boys and 10 million girls) would be made in primary education between the current year and 1984-85. Of the number of additional enrolment 6 millions will be given non-formal (part-time) education to help the environmental conditions of children unable to attend formal schools.

According to Planning Commission sources, 70 per cent of the additional enrolment will have to be achieved in educationally backward States and, if this is accomplished, it is likely that all the boys and 88 per cent of the girls in the age group of 6-11 will be covered by primary education by 1984-85.

It is felt by the planners that more than the provision of schooling facilities, measures are needed to reduce dropout and wastage in primary education. Quality improvement, making the courses relevant to local needs and varying environment, provision of essential buildings and other physical facilities in all areas and free supply of materials to children from economically weaker sections are some of the measures which will be supported to achieve the objective. So far as middle school education is concerned, an additional enrolment of 8.6 million children (5 million boys and 3.6 million girls) will be necessary during 1980-85. Of them, 2 million children will be enrolled in non-formal (part-time) courses.

If this is accomplished, it will increase coverage of children in middle schools to 66 per cent of boys and 39 per cent of girls by 1984-85. This will lead to near universalisation by (1989-90).

As regards secondary education, the strategy is to implement the 10 plus 2 pattern effectively in its content, keeping in view its main purpose of enabling a large number of students to receive practical education related to their gainful employment and daily life. This will require coordination between schools and development programmes of other agencies and sectors.

Dr M. S. Swaminathan, member, Planning Commission, regretted at a recent conference of Directors of Education from States that the original objective of making 10 plus 2 a terminal course had not been fulfilled and that even those taking vocational courses wanted to join general courses in colleges.

Plan for Degree

The plan for university degree continued. As a means of deglamourisation of university education, some had suggested that 10 plus 2 could be fixed as the minimum qualification for taking the IAS examination and those selected for IAS on this basis could be given training for five years during which higher education and skills could be imparted. But Dr Swaminathan felt that without tinkering with the system there was scope to realise the desired objectives by "malady-remedy analysis."

The new strategy, therefore, seeks to rely on optimum use of available resources to impart practical skills in the plus two stage, instead of waiting for creation of new facilities, the emphasis should be on giving students real life experience and this could be done by participation of schools in various development programmes in their neighbourhood. This will also help students to earn while they learn and thereby reduce wastage in education due to economic reasons.

According to Dr Swaminathan, the school authorities should take the initiative and assume leadership in organising student participation in neighbourhood projects, instead of waiting to be invited by the development agencies concerned.

In the sphere of higher education, the stress will be on coordinated use of existing infrastructural facilities in universities and colleges, maintenance and achievement of excellence, and encouragement of student participation in socio-economic development projects. To ensure linkages between education, employment and development, the University Act will be amended on the lines of the Agricultural Universities Act.

The strategy calls for great restraint in proliferation of institutions of higher education and contemplates planning and development of new courses and centres of advanced study in a rational manner to maximise economic and academic benefits as well as to encourage countrywide mobility among intellectuals.

GOVERNMENT PLACES CURBS ON FOREIGN STUDENTS

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 3 Sep 80 pp 1, 9

[Text]

BANGALORE, September 2

THE government of India is understood to have banned indiscriminate admission of foreign students in Indian universities. The ban comes into effect with the current academic year.

A new procedure has been laid down for the entry of foreign students into the already overcrowded Indian universities.

First, a foreign student desiring to join an Indian university will have to apply in the embassy of his country in Delhi. The embassy will screen his application and forward it to the Union education ministry which, in turn, will allot him a seat in an Indian university.

It will be necessary for a foreign student joining an Indian university to have a valid student visa. Without it, any arrangement he makes outside the new procedure will be considered illegal.

The new procedure is primarily aimed at the so-called self-financing students from Africa, West Asia and south-east Asian countries who used to throng Indian universities in unmanageable numbers. This created ethnic, social and even political problems.

Following a communication from the Union education ministry, university vice-chancellors have warned colleges under their jurisdiction that admissions made in violation of the

revised procedure will not be recognised and such students will be barred from taking any university examination.

Till now, a large number of foreign students, with the wherewithal to study in India, managed to obtain "provisional eligibility" certificates from Indian universities and get admitted to a college of their choice. The main intention of many of them, it is stated, was to obtain an Indian university degree. Academic pursuit fell by the wayside.

University education in India is imparted through the English medium. This is somewhat of a problem even to Indian students who have done their schooling in an Indian language medium. But a nodding acquaintance with English helps them through university education. In the case of foreign students, the problem is more acute. They are frustrated in Indian conditions because of their inadequacy in or total ignorance of written and spoken English. Some take special English lessons. "English language" schools, which gave a crash course in that language, have mushroomed.

Most self-financing students coming to India are apparently persons of considerable means. Besides, in India they find a freedom and experienced people. This creates a wide disparity between their life-style and that of their poorer Indian counterpart.

A relatively new phenomenon is the growth in the number of foreign students hailing from Iran and other oil-rich countries. Iranian students in

Bangalore and Pune, in particular, have often been a source from which trouble has arisen. The recent upheaval in Iran split the ranks of the Iranian students in India, some on the side of the deposed Shah and others on the side of Ayatollah Khomeini. The Ayatollah told a group of Iranian students studying in India and currently on a visit to Iran: "Thwart any move against the revolution."

Iranian students in Bangalore, who may number 2,000, have fought among themselves violently because of their opposing political views. The tension created by the rival groups led to the police recommending the deportation of some of them. The move was dropped after high-level talks.

There were also serious clashes between Iranian and Indian students. Versions about the angle of the clashes vary, but one that persists is that an Iranian student snatched an Indian student, both studying in an engineering college, as the latter did not allow him to copy his answers about a mathematics test. The Iranian students were also accused of a massive assault on them by Indian students. An Iranian diplomat, who arrived on a peace mission, made matters worse by making the off-the-cuff comment that Indian university degrees could be purchased for money. The matter figured in parliament and is now forgotten.

GANDHI, MINISTERS AGREE ON INFORMATION EXCHANGE

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 3 Sep 80 p 9

{Text}

CALCUTTA, September 2.

GENERAL information and intelligence related to the activities of communal and disruptive or separatist forces in different parts of the country are likely to be exchanged between the Centre and the sensitive states.

A broad understanding on these lines is stated to have been reached at the week-end meeting of 12 chief ministers with the Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, which specifically discussed the communal situation and how to deal with it. A joint statement was released after the conference.

The modalities for this exchange of information are now expected to be worked out by the Centre in consultation with the states. A suggestion in this effect was made by the West Bengal chief minister, Mr. Jyoti Basu.

His reasoning was that the state

governments often did not precisely know what was happening in other parts of the country in terms of communal activities or the suspected forces behind these activities and were, therefore, not able to initiate anticipatory measures.

Speaking informally to newsmen here today, Mr. Basu said he had emphasised at the meeting the need for evolving a code of behaviour among political parties, especially those running governments in different states. None should try to exploit a communal situation to his political advantage by any means.

Mr. Basu said the Prime Minister also met chief ministers of the north-eastern states separately because their problems were so very different. That day's meeting, he said, was originally scheduled for September 10. But during the second day's NDC session, Mrs. Gandhi suggested it might as well be held that very afternoon, provided all the 12 chief ministers were free and he had readily agreed.

CSO: 42217

ROK SEEKS TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH INDIA

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 24 Oct 80 p 12

[Text]

SEOUL, October 23 (PTT) After getting a clear mandate in the national referendum and scoring his first victory on the domestic front, the government of the retired General Chun Doo-hwan is trying to improve its international relations.

The government has decided to appoint a very senior diplomat as ambassador to India, in place of Mr. Lee Bum-suk, who was appointed minister.

The Indian ambassador, Mr. V. V. Paranjape, was informed of this in Seoul by the foreign minister, Mr. Lho Shin-yong, after winning the first test of his popularity by getting over 90 per cent of the votes.

President Chun has swung to improve the stalled relations with Japan and other countries.

In a massive turnout, the South Korean voters approved the revised draft of the constitution which will replace the authoritarian Yushin (revitalisation) constitution on Monday.

After two successive discussions between Mr. Lho and Mr. Paranjape during the last fortnight in Seoul, a distinct possibility of strengthening bilateral relations is understood to have emerged.

The government seems to be trying to solve the problem of the huge trade surplus with India, and the foreign minister, Mr. Lho, is understood to have assured Mr. Paranjape that South Korea will increase its import from India.

The Indian ambassador is going to New Delhi to explore the possibility of restoring India's sluggish exports to this country's vast foreign trade potential. Mr. Paranjape leaves Seoul on a short leave on October 27.

REMOVING BOTTLENECKS

He will, however, meet the foreign minister, Mr. Narasimha Rao, and hold inter-ministerial discussions to remove the bottlenecks in the field of exports to South Korea which have suffered a serious blow during the first three quarters of this year.

According to official sources in Seoul, South Korea has exported three times more than its imports from India till the end of July and by the end of this year, is likely to cross the total volume of last year's two way trade, leaving an estimated 140 million dollar record trade surplus in its favour.

Mr. Lho, who was his country's first ambassador to India, is giving importance to relations with New Delhi because of the domestic preoccupation of his government.

Reuter adds: South Korea's new constitution contains safeguards aimed at preventing a president from clinging to power longer than his stipulated single seven-year term.

President Chun Doo-hwan, the army strongman who took over the presidency last August, has said that in his view, the peaceful transfer of presidential powers was the key to a viable democracy in South Korea.

A clause states that any amendment extending the term of the president or permitting the head of state to stand for re-election shall not apply to the chief executive in office at the time.

The constitution also gives a future role for retired presidents. They will become chairmen of a new advisory council on state affairs, a council of elders charged with advising the incumbent president.

The new clauses were aimed at preventing a repetition of the presidency of the late Park Chung-hee, who ruled for 18 years by forcing through constitutional amendments until assassinated by his security chief a year ago.

REDDY RECEIVES LETTER ON BREZHNEV VISIT PLANS

Madras THE HINDU in English 23 Oct 80 p 1

[Text] New Delhi, Oct 22--The Soviet Ambassador in Delhi, Mr Yuri Vorontsov, called on the President, Mr N. Sanjiva Reddi, at Rashtrapati Bhavan today to deliver a letter from the Soviet Premier, Mr Alexei Kosygin.

The Soviet leader thanked the President for the message, sent during his recent visit to the Soviet Union, wishing Mr Kosygin early recovery from his illness.

The Soviet Envoy utilised the opportunity to apprise the President of the tentative dates for Mr Brezhnev's impending visit to Delhi. The Soviet Government had indicated December 8, 9 and 10 for the visit subject to the convenience of the Indian hosts.

The present indication is that even if there is a slight change in these dates, the visit will take place in the second week of December, before the Soviet leaders get busy with their annual party conferences.

There was no official confirmation today in Delhi of the Moscow report that besides the Soviet Foreign Minister, Mr Gromyko, the Soviet Defence Minister, Marshal Ustinov, would be accompanying Mr Brezhnev on this visit. Though there was a standing invitation to Marshal Ustinov to visit India, it was highly unlikely that he would come along with the Soviet President on what was essentially a political visit.

Though the Soviet Defence Minister was ready to return the visit of his last Indian counterpart, Mr Jagjivan Ram, the absence of a Defence Minister in the present Cabinet was one of the reasons for an indefinite postponement of this visit. It would not have been appropriate either for the Soviet Defence Minister to come to India so soon after his country's massive military intervention in neighbouring Afghanistan.

But the Soviet side is doing everything possible to make Mr Brezhnev's forthcoming visit a major landmark in Indo-Soviet relations. The negotiations under way for a series of new agreements for increased economic cooperation are being completed, or at least brought up to the stage of finalisation, to enable the necessary protocols to be signed during Mr Brezhnev's visit.

The Prime Minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi, went fully briefed to her press conference yesterday to answer any questions that might be asked about Mr Brezhnev's absence from the return dinner given by the President. She wanted to make an appeal, after offering a suitable explanation, to treat this incident as closed since the Opposition parties were planning to raise it in Parliament on the eve of Mr Brezhnev's visit which could be a source of embarrassment to both India and the Soviet Union.

But as it so happened the subject was not raised at all at this press conference. The Indian and foreign correspondents were so engrossed in other issues that even those who would not have normally let go this opportunity forgot all about it.

CSO: 4220

MEETING TO FINALIZE FIVE-YEAR PLAN DELAYED

Madras THE HINDU in English 24 Oct 80 p 6

[Text]

NEW DELHI, Oct. 23.

The meeting of the National Development Council (NDC) to discuss and finalise the 1981-85 Sixth Five-Year Plan, is likely to be convened only in January next year, according to present indications. The earlier hope was that the NDC meeting could be held in the last week of December.

When the Prime Minister, Mrs. Gandhi, told a press conference on Tuesday that the Sixth Plan had been finalised in record time, she had apparently in mind only the Plan frame document. The preparation of the draft Plan documents by the Planning Commission was earlier expected to be completed by Nov. 30 but this is unlikely to materialise now.

Upset Schedule

According to the earlier schedule, discussions with the State Governments on the annual Plan for 1981-82 and the Sixth Plan should have started from the middle of September and completed by October. This would have enabled the Planning Commission to complete the writing of the Sixth Plan document after incorporating the State Plans by the end of November. It has not been possible to adhere to this schedule. Even official-level discussions with the State Governments have started only now, with the Planning Commission beginning with Gujarat on Wednesday.

(Talks with some of the Union Territories had, however, started earlier).

Discussions with the Chief Ministers will start later and according to present expectations, these will be over only by the first week of December. The State Governments, it appears, will need a substantial measure of Central assistance, as their own resource mobilisation efforts would leave a large gap between their Plan outlays and the funds available. For instance, Gujarat has proposed a Sixth Plan outlay of around Rs. 4,000 crores while its own resource mobilisation during the five-year period may not exceed Rs. 1,100 crores. Other State Governments would make similar demands on the Centre.

The Planning Commission can start writing the Sixth Plan document only after the completion of discussions with the State Governments. It is not going to be an easy task to accommodate their Plans in the Sixth Plan document. The Commission will need the whole of December to complete this task.

The Plan document will have to be approved by the Union Cabinet before it is circulated to the States. The Chief Ministers have told the Planning Commission that they would need at least two weeks to study the Plan document before the NDC meeting is convened. The meeting can, therefore, take place only by mid-January.

Discussions between the Planning Commission and the Central Ministries are also currently on. There had been

delay in drawing up sectoral allocations for the Sixth Plan and determination of priorities. The allocations earlier proposed by the various divisions of the Planning Commission had to be revised. The Commission has since completed the task. But the allocations will have to be discussed with the Central Ministries and the State Governments.

Oil Imponderables

Mrs. Gandhi told her press conference that the "biggest ever allocations" with "right" and "clear" priorities have been made in the Sixth Plan.

The total allocations, amounting to a public sector outlay of Rs. 90,000 crores are particularly bigger in financial terms than the outlay of about Rs. 70,000 crores made by the previous Government. However, in real terms, the physical targets which could be realised with the proposed outlay will hardly be higher and are even likely to be less than were visualised in the draft of the previous Government in view of cost escalations.

The biggest upset the Planning Commission has had to contend with since writing the Plan frame document has been caused by the disruption in oil supplies due to the Iran-Iraq war. If, as it looks likely, the disruption is prolonged, the Commission will have to revise all the assumptions in respect of oil made in the Plan frame document.

CSO: 4220

TRADE UNION GENERAL SECRETARY REPORTS TO CONGRESS

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 28 Oct 80 p 6

[Text] Visakhapatnam, October 27 (PTI)--Mr K. G. Srivastava, general secretary of the AITUC, today urged the working class to demonstrate their solidarity for changing the society and the policies of the government.

Presenting the secretary's report to the 31st session of the All-India Trade Union Congress here, Mr Srivastava said they should take steps in support of trade union struggle as well as struggles of allies like agricultural workers, middle class employees, and against atrocities on women and the weaker sections of society.

He said the unity of working class at the national, regional and plant level was of paramount necessity and conscious efforts had to be made to build unity, not only for immediate demands but on an enduring basis.

Mr Srivastava said trade union rights and democratic rights had to be defended--the right of forming, functioning of trade unions without any interference from the government and the right to strike. Strikes and lock-outs could not be equated and what was described as unfair labour practices and penalties for the same should be completely rescinded whenever unions were directly concerned.

He said the struggle for democratic rights was closely linked with trade union rights and should be carried forward. Any legislation like the national security ordinance, banning of strikes, banning of holding of meetings and conferences should be opposed and fought, he said.

Mr Srivastava said the struggle for economic demands had to be combined with that for changing the economic policies of the government and defending the nation's unity and integrity.

Detailing the tasks of the organisation, the general secretary said trade unions had to play active role in opposing imperialist designs threatening the nation's independence and fight for national unity and integrity at all costs.

He said the United States and Chinese expansionist plans for encircling India and threatening its independence had to be exposed.

Mr Srivastava said trade unions had to take up the question of development of backward regions and defence of economic, linguistic and cultural interests of the people of the regions.

The public sector had to be defended and struggles launched for its expansion. In the organised sector, workers had gained in recent years wage increases which had reached a little over Rs 500/- per month.

In the unorganised sector on the other hand the wages were still low. A minimum wage of Rs 400/- per month in this sector should be demanded, he said.

CSO: 4220

STEPS TO CHECK IMPORT OF NONESSENTIALS URGED

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 24 Oct 80 p 11

[Text] New Delhi, Oct 23--The Import Substitution Committee has urged rectification of two anomalies, one in the import policy and the other in the levy of duty, reports UNIFIN. The 14-member committee headed by Mr S. Agarwal, former secretary, Ministry of Communications, was set up to review the working of various measures initiated and policies and programmes pursued during the past few years with regard to reducing the country's dependence on imports of capital goods technology, and know-how.

The committee states that the present import policy which lists only "banned" and "restricted" items gives scope for the import of a large number of items like components under the Open General Licence. As a result, some finished products, imports of which have been banned or restricted, are imported in the completely knocked down condition in contravention of rules.

While it is important to ensure that greater flexibility and efficiency of the domestic industry and its enhanced export potential are not affected, if it is necessary to see that non-essential imports are restricted, the committee adds [as published]

The report just released favours enlargement of the list of "restricted items" suitably to include components, parts, subassemblies, and the like of finished products, whose imports are banned so that finished products do not get imported in a completely knocked down condition in contravention of regulations.

The committee feels that the banned, restricted and canalized lists have to be periodically reviewed to ensure that imports are allowed only to the extent essential for industrial growth and exports. The replenishment licence policy has also to be constantly reviewed in this context.

Besides the actual users, automatic licences should aim at importing only those restricted items which are required to be imported by the unit based on its previous consumption.

The committee has noticed that in some cases the finished products attract relatively lower duty than the intermediates and components, which in turn have lower duty compared to that on raw material.

CPM LEADER SAYS PRC POLICY NOW PRO-SOVIET

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 28 Oct 80 p 9

[Text] New Delhi, October 27--The CPM general secretary, Mr E.M.S. Namboodiripad, said today he was happy to note that there was a definite shift in Chinese policies in favour of the Soviet Union.

The CPM leader referred to this trend to justify his party's policy of trying to develop fraternal relationship with the communist parties of both the Soviet Union and China though he thought that China had much farther to go to identify itself completely with the socialist camp.

He noted in this context that China was not among the socialist countries which had taken steps to rebuff the aggressive activities of the U.S., particularly in West Asia and the Gulf region.

Giving a resume of the four-day deliberations of the central committee of the party, Mr Namboodiripad said the CPM noted with concern the growing trend towards authoritarianism in the Congress(I) government at the Centre.

It was also significant that the Congress(I) had started to "anyass for a presidential form of government."

Mr Namboodiripad pointed out that the conference was another command performance by the same set of lawyers who had championed the authoritarian cause at the time of the emergency.

He said the country was facing the danger of reimposition of emergency. The amendment of the criminal procedure code, the promulgation of the national security ordinance, authorising detention without trial, the attempt to amend the constitutional provision in this regard were all pointers in that direction.

Destabilisation Bid

The CPM leader alleged that Mrs Gandhi was going against what she had been exporting from the opposition, namely that it should allow the elected government to rule for the full term for which it had been elected. As evidence, he pointed out that the Union minister, E. M. Stephen, was continuously trying to destabilise

the Kerala government and the discriminatory treatment meted out by the Centre to the West Bengal government.

"It is worth noting," he said, "that the Prime Minister is today laying down such norms of democratic functioning by the opposition which she has consistently violated wherever and whenever her party has been reduced to a minority in the legislature."

He further alleged that the Centre had refused to honour its commitment to supply wheat for the food-for-work programme to West Bengal on the spurious plea that the state government did not set up district committees under the chairmanship of the district collector to execute the programme.

CRO: 4220

BIG INCREASE IN INDO-SOVIET TRADE REPORTED

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 6 Sep 80 p 8

[Text]

THE 1980 trade plan between India and the USSR marks the biggest ever leap in the trade turnover between the two countries. The 1979 trade plan stipulated that the turnover would be of the order of Rs 1,200 crores. In fact, the visit of Mr A N Kosygin, the Soviet Prime Minister, to India early in 1979, led to additional supplies of crude to India against Indian rice on a barter basis. As a result the trade turnover rose to Rs 1,600 crores. The 1980 trade plan envisages a growth of Rs 300 crores, taking the turnover to over Rs 1,900 crores.

The major highlight of the trade plan is that apart from stepping up purchases of items like coffee, instant coffee, fruit juices, cigarettes, dyestuffs, detergents, cosmetics, shoe uppers, woollen knitwear, readymade garments, garage equipment, spectacle frames and handicrafts, which the USSR has been buying for several years, it has placed substantial orders for new items like roasted and salted peanuts, cotton sewing thread, cotton hosiery, V-belts, steam boilers, incinerators, thermo-blocks and printing machines.

As for Soviet supplies to India, the plan provides for continued supplies of machinery, crude oil and petroleum products, fertilisers, non-ferrous metals and newsprint.

Mr I T Grishin, Soviet Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade, said at the signing ceremony that the

1980 trade plan is the last of the long-term trade agreement for the period 1976-80, and looking back at the results of the long-term agreement, the two countries have done well to develop mutual trade. Mr A S Gull, Secretary, Union Ministry of Commerce, said that the 1979 trade plan was highly successful and that a new stage in trade relations has been ushered. He said that a number of sectors of the Indian economy are now oriented to Indo-Soviet trade and as a result their growth has been stimulated.

In an interview to the Soviet *Land* publications, Mr Grishin said that apart from the steep rise in mutual turnover of trade, the 1980 trade plan registers significant advances in Soviet purchases of Indian manufactures. Mr Grishin emphasised that in no other case has Soviet trade relations grown at such fast rate as with India. He pointed out that the nearly Rs 2,000 crore trade turnover expected in 1980 completely fulfils the hopes of the Indo-Soviet Joint Declaration of 1973 during the visit of Mr L I Brezhnev to India that Indo-Soviet trade would grow by 1.5 to 2 times by the end of the decade. In fact, he pointed out, it has far exceeded those estimates.

Mr Grishin said that the Soviet delegation had fruitful discussions on the next long-term trade agreement for the period 1981-85, which he hoped would be signed

in the first half of 1980. According to Mr Grishin, the 1981-85 agreement would be highly significant to both countries, as it is expected to reflect the trade tasks of the Long-Term Programme of Cooperation till 1990, which was signed in March in 1979. He said, "important steps for the promotion of mutual trade will be indicated in that agreement." He pointed out that the provisions of this long-term agreement will be discussed by the specialised bodies of the Indo-Soviet Joint Commission. In this connection, he observed that Indo-Soviet trade has already passed the stage of mere commodity exchanges into mutual cooperation between two economies. The press release of the Commerce Ministry said that "it is the expectation of the two sides that the capabilities and requirements of the respective sides, as reflected in the Trade Agreement for 1981-85 to be signed, would be taken into account in formulating their respective long-term economic plans."

In a significant observation, Mr Grishin said that there can be barter deals outside the trade protocols, as in the case of the barter of crude against rice signed in March, 1979.

Speaking on crude supplies, he said that the USSR would supply 1.3 million tonnes of crude in 1980 and 1.7 million tonnes of petroleum products to India.

USSR REPORTED EAGER TO BUY INDIAN GOODS

Madras THE HINDU in English 25 Oct 80 p 6

(Text)

CALCUTTA, Oct 23.

The Soviet Union is reported to have shown increasing interest in importing certain consumer goods from India in recent months.

According to information available in commercial circles here in traditional lines of Indian export, like tea, the Soviet Union has been serving as an important buyer for quite a few years now. In fact, it would not be an exaggeration to say that the Calcutta tea auction would be dead with a crash if the Russians decide to pull out of it suddenly. Prices are often dictated by the Russians in the auction.

However, in recent months, other Indian manufacturers, who had not earlier been looking on the Soviet Union as a possible market, have been sending Soviet offers to buy their products in fairly large quantities. Such manufacturers include those engaged in producing consumer products like soap and detergents, shoe polish and even lipstick.

One such consumer goods manufacturer of Bombay is reported to have recently bagged a Rs. 90 crore order from the Russians — a large order by any standard. An important shoe polish manufacturer here received a Russian offer to buy 20 million tins of shoe polish. For the time being, the company is going to supply about 4 million tins while hurriedly stepping up its production process to meet the

extraordinary demand.

Asked why the Soviet Union might be interested in buying so much from India when the balance of trade has been in its favour traditionally, a senior commercial executive offered possible explanations.

It could be that the balance of trade had been in Russia's favour but with the conclusion of the Sino-Soviet accord with India recently, the Russians would have a lot of leeway to import more. Secondly, the demand for consumer goods has been rising markedly in the Soviet Union over the years and the Soviet Government probably makes a better bargain by purchasing from India than from Western

countries. A third possible reason for the sharp increase in volume could be that the Russians are resourcing a proportion of their goods in East European countries. The volume of a number of recent orders are said to be too large for meeting Soviet domestic demands alone.

"The point is that some sort of demand is there and that is all we are concerned with. The Russians appear to be interested in almost anything we can give them. You name the product and the chances are they will take it. We are, of course, delighted", the executive said.

METAL RESEARCH MEETING TOLD OF SOVIET-INDIAN WORK

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 27 Oct 80 p 3

[Text]

Soviet and Indian experts are engaged in 'vigorous' research to overcome the problems being faced by Indian steel plants because of high ash content coal, says UNI.

Prof Shalimov, head of the Soviet Metallurgical Institute, told UNI that one of the major problems of the Bhilai steel plant concerned raw materials, particularly coal.

Research work to tackle the problem was being done partly in the Soviet Union and partly in India. A solution to the problem would considerably enhance steel production and improve the quality, he said.

Prof Shalimov said the joint research in steel technology had made substantial headway during the last year. India 'is the only country with which the Soviet Union is conducting joint research in steel in these particular fields'.

Mr Shalimov, who led a seven-member Soviet delegation to the recently held symposium on metallurgical research in Raigarh, visited Bhilai later.

The Soviet Union had earlier provided only equipment and technical assistance for construction and operation of the plant.

The production at Bhilai 'has improved'. Sintering and blast furnace technologies were updated on the recommendations of the joint research teams. Improvements had been effected in steel rolling following which the quality of steel at Bhilai was better.

Mr Shalimov said these improvements in technology were part of the modernisation programme of the Bhilai plant on the basis of the Basic Technological and Economic Consideration (BTEC) already worked out by Indian and Soviet steel plants. He hoped that the Government of India would approve the BTEC and modernise other plants also.

He said the symposium enabled the Soviet delegates to exchange their latest experience in Soviet steel technology with Indian experts. The Soviet scientists have been working on the problems of the coke chemical industry, furnace, steel smelting and rolling. Future cooperation between the two countries also figured at the discussions.

He noted that the method of coal injection in blast furnaces would be introduced in 1982. The method entailed construction of new installations and capital investment.

INDO-SOVIET JOINT STUDY PROJECTS IDENTIFIED

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 5 Sep 80 p 5

[Text]

BOMBAY, Sept. 4 (PTI) India and the Soviet Union will carry out joint studies on the mutual influences in the fields of new and crafts technology, mathematics, astronomy, architecture and medicine between India and Soviet Central Asia in the medieval period.

The studies will be undertaken as part of the Indo-Soviet programme of scientific and technological exchanges between the Indian National Science Academy and the USSR Academy of Sciences.

Dr B V Subbarayappa who is the co-ordinator for all these study projects, told PTI here that 17 subjects in technology, arts and crafts had already been identified for study. He will work out further collaborative deals with his Soviet counterparts during his visit to the Soviet Union to participate in the international conference on the history of science and technology to be held in Moscow, Dnep and Buzhara from 17 to 27 September.

The Soviet Union is the only country with which India has such joint research arrangements.

Dr Subbarayappa, who is on deputation to the Nehru Centre in Bombay from the Indian National Science Academy, will also be the principal coordinator in India for the 17 study projects in technology, arts and crafts.

INFLUENCES

He said the studies will concentrate on the dynamics of the mutual influences in these fields between India and Soviet Central Asia

in the medieval period and technological continuity and social influences. The studies will be completed in three years.

Dr Subbarayappa will himself carry out the studies in mineral metallurgy and metal working as well as coinage and pottery.

Dr (Mrs) H K Naqvi of the Jamia Millia, New Delhi will study carpet making, textiles and costumes and leather working. Mr O P Agarwal of the National Research Laboratory for Conservation of Cultural Property, Lucknow will undertake studies on paper making and the techniques of miniatures and scroll paintings.

Studies on the manufacture of arms and armour, gunpowder and pyrotechnics will be undertaken by the Archaeological Survey of India, New Delhi.

Dr N R Banerjee of the National Museum, New Delhi, will study the technology of sculpture and the tools and techniques of calligraphy.

The Deccan College in Pune will undertake studies in glassware and ceramics.

Other subjects identified for study are agricultural technology, including irrigation, food processing, preservation and fermentation, wood and ivory work. The institutions which will undertake these studies have still to be finalised.

The subjects for study in the field of mathematics, astronomy, architecture and medicine also are yet to be finalised, Dr Subbarayappa said.

An Indo-Soviet seminar on the study projects will be organised under the auspices of the Nehru Centre next year probably in February.

INDIA

INDO-HUNGARIAN JOINT COMMISSION MEETING PROTOCOL SIGNED

HK151552 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1523 GMT 15 Nov 80

[Text] A protocol was signed in New Delhi on 15 November between India and Hungary after the end of the fourth session of the Indo-Hungarian Joint Commission held 10-15 November 1980. Minister of State for Industry Doctor Charanjit Chanana and Minister for Light Industry of the Hungarian People's Republic Madame E. Keseru were the two cochairmen of the joint commission. The joint commission constituted four working groups in respect of industrial cooperation, trade, chemicals and agriculture. During her stay in Delhi Madame Keseru called on the prime minister and conveyed a message from the chairman of the Council of Ministers of Hungary. She also met Commerce Minister Pranab Mukherjee, Agriculture Minister Rao Birendra Singh, Communications Minister C. M. Stephen, and Minister of State for Energy Vikram Mahajan.

Discussions were held in a very cordial and friendly atmosphere in keeping with the close ties between the two countries. The two sides expressed satisfaction at the progress and cooperation between the two countries arising out of the decisions of the third session of the joint commission held at Budapest in May 1978.

HMT Limited, India, entered into a collaboration with Messers Tungram of Hungary for manufacture of fluorescent lamp tubes. The two sides also agreed to cooperate in regard to supply of scoreboards, lighting systems and other equipment for the Asian Games to be held in New Delhi in 1982.

Close cooperation between India and Hungary in the field of telecommunications is to be strengthened further. The Hungarian side has offered to provide technical collaboration for the manufacture of VHF rural telecommunication systems, microwave systems, provision of tape recorders, studio equipment, computer peripherals, off line data entry system, line printers and low power TV broadcast systems. A number of telecommunication and electronic equipment for export from India to Hungary such as manual exchange trunk boards, cables, multiplexing equipment, etc., have been identified.

The Hungarian side has offered to assist in the establishment of a research institute in India for the manufacture and application of aluminium [as received]. The Hungarian side also expressed interest for the design and

construction of extra high voltage transmission system of seven hundred fifty KVAC. The two sides have identified useful proposals of collaboration based on utilisation and complementarities in skills, capacities and resources. These include possibilities of importing raw materials and intermediate products from Hungary for processing into finished products with appropriate buy back arrangements. It was also decided to expand cooperation with third country markets blending the low cost production economies of India with the sophistications and technologies available both in India and Hungary.

Over 36 items relating to chemicals, drugs and pharmaceuticals have been identified for export from India to Hungary. Both sides agreed to explore the possibilities of setting up of joint ventures in India for the production of pharmaceutical formulations and steroid hormones to meet not only India's requirements but also the demand in other countries. The supply of life saving drugs like chloramphenicol and chloroquin phosphate from Hungary to India is to be considered.

In the field of agriculture, possibilities of collaboration in the establishment of model farms and vegetable farms had been discussed. Collaboration for the production and processing of soyabeans and for the establishment of joint ventures for production of fruit juice concentrates are to be pursued. A linkage has been established between cooperative organisations in India and Hungary.

CSO: 4220

CPI LEADER GUPTA ADDRESSES BERLIN CONFERENCE

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 24 Oct 80 p 3

[Text] Berlin Oct 23--CPI leader Bhupesh Gupta addressing the International Scientific Conference of 116 parties in Berlin aimed against imperialism stressed that "no bourgeois party can take" India out of the economic and social crisis and the only way out is to "break with the capitalist path," launching the country on a firm anti-imperialist, anti-monopoly and anti-feudal path of development.

The veteran parliamentarian and CPI national council secretary told the leaders of world socialism, working class movement and national liberation converged here that Indian Communists are now in the forefront of this "national emancipation" struggle.

"In the present stage of our national democratic revolution" Mr Bhupesh Gupta said "the situation demands, the working class in firm alliance with the peasantry play a leading role in fulfilling" these tasks. (as published)

He admitted that India's national independence has been greatly consolidated "thanks to the anti-imperialist traditions of our people, country's left and democratic movement with the Communists in the forefront and last but not the least, the generous, disinterested truly nation building assistance of the Soviet Union and other friendly socialist countries."

The CPI leader warned against the consolidation of monopoly hold on India's national economy. He said, nearly 5,000 "collaboration agreements signed with U.S., Britain and the FRG has been a major instrument for strengthening the insidious links with the world capitalist market.

Though India's trade with the Soviet Union and other socialist states have registered "significant rise," Mr Bhupesh Gupta pointed out that greater half of India's foreign trade is with the world's powerful imperialist states.

The CPI leader concentrated his fire against imperialism and the Chinese hegemonism saying their "open collusion and military collaboration" is a grave threat to the national security and independence.

He denounced massive U.S. arms building in the Indian Ocean and neighbouring Pakistan. Moreover, the Washington-Peking axis is encouraging and helping the

reactionary forces in the region, in addition to armed intervention, along with Islamabad, to destroy" Afghan revolution and its independence. In India, he said, "The US imperialist and Chinese rulers are helping the secessionists and disruptive forces, in the northeast region."

Mr Bhupesh Gupta explained the efforts of the CPI to unite and mobilise the anti-imperialist patriotic forces against the threat coming from forces virtually "encircling our country." He hailed India's "great role" in the regional and global peace, national independence and international economic order, and termed its recognition of the Heng Samrin Government of Cambodia as a "momentous step of world significance."

The CPI leader mentioned Kerala, West Bengal and Tripura State Governments as examples of "possible alternative to the bourgeoisie rule." However, he said, taking the country as a whole, the left and democratic forces are not strong enough to present a viable national alternative now.

Mr Gupta then emphasised on the significance of cooperation between the two Communist Parties in India. "Despite their differences on some ideological and political questions, the coming closer of the CPI and the CPM two major left parties has been particularly welcome. He warned against both "right and left opportunist deviations" in the fight to win broad democratic allies for the left forces.

CSO: 4220

KARNATAKA SIXTH PLAN TARGETS RELEASED TO PRESS

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 27 Oct 80 p 4

[Text] Bangalore, Oct 26. The Karnataka Government has finalised the Sixth Plan document with a total outlay of Rs 2,500 crore spread over 1980-85 and with an objective of achieving a growth rate of about 6.5 per cent per annum.

Releasing the document to the press here today, Finance Minister M. Veerappa Moiley, and Planning Secretary Dr D. M. Nanjundappa expressed confidence that the State would be able to mobilise resources for the Plan.

Giving break-up figures for resources Nanjundappa revealed that out of the total outlay, Rs 530 crore will be Central assistance and the rest will be raised through various Central and State revenue resources. He said that while a major portion of the State's share of resources will come from present taxation measures and levies except for Rs 250 crore which will have to be raised as additional resources.

However, additional taxation will be marginal, he assured.

Explaining the objectives of the Plan, Mr Moiley said that it aims at reducing imbalances noticed among some of the key sectors. (as published) "The king-pin of the new plan is employment and welfare of weaker sections of society, especially scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and other backward classes and minorities," he added.

Mr Moiley said that Chief Minister Gundu Rao and himself will have high level discussions with the authorities of the Planning Commission on 11 November in Delhi. Earlier from 2 November, the Planning Secretary and other officials of the State Government will have discussions with the Planning Commission and prepare the ground, he added.

According to the Plan document, highest priority continues to be given for power, irrigation and agriculture. Agriculture and allied services, cooperation and irrigation are provided Rs 865 crore which comes to 35 per cent, irrigation and power development are allocated Rs 1114.6 crore which comes to 45 per cent, industries get Rs 164 crore which comes to 6.6 per cent and transport and communication get Rs 150 crore which comes to six per cent.

In order to ensure that rural development gets necessary infrastructural support and required health, education, housing and other services, an outlay of Rs 612 crore, 24.5 per cent, has been proposed.

The Plan aims at creating cumulative employment potential of about 80 lakh persons out of which new employment is likely to be of the order of around 77 lakhs.

Area under irrigation is expected to go up by about 10 lakh hectares taking total irrigated area to about 32 lakh hectares by the end of the Plan period.

Installed power capacity is expected to rise from 1335 to 2530 MW. Target for food production is 95 lakh tonnes and that of sugarcane at 215 lakh tonnes.

The Finance Minister also released to the press the annual Plan document for 1981-82 which envisages total developmental outlay of Rs 450 crore.

CSO: 4220

JOINT ECONOMIC, OTHER STUDIES WITH GDR PLANNED

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 25 Oct 80 p 3

[Text] India and the German Democratic Republic have agreed to collaborate in joint studies in the fields of economics, chemicals and computers. A protocol listing the specific areas of study in these subjects is expected next year after more talks.

This was disclosed on Thursday by GDR Deputy Minister of Higher Education Prof Engel, after completing a 12-day tour at the head of a five-member delegation of institutions in Cochin, Bangalore, Pune, Hyderabad and Delhi.

Prof Engel, who had detailed discussions with UGC chairman Prof Satish Chandra, Cochin University Vice-Chancellor M. V. Pylee and others, exchanged documents with the UGC for greater cooperation in various fields of higher education, including the liquid crystal technology, shipbuilding technology, management studies, economics, history, planning and allied sciences.

The two sides reviewed the progress made in existing collaboration programmes identified during earlier talks. Seven specific programmes, involving GDR universities and Indian institutions, including Cochin University, Indian Institute of Science Bangalore, Gokhale Institute Pune, IIT Bombay and Poona University are involved in these programmes.

UGC chairman Satish Chandra told the GDR Minister that the universities in the two countries should have collaboration programmes in well defined areas. As these programmes developed, new fields could be taken up for cooperation. The GDR team expressed satisfaction at the progress being made in the collaboration programmes.

Specific schemes, it was decided, would shortly be finalised for collaboration between Humbolt University, Berlin and Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi in the sphere of modern history and with Poona University in Sanskrit.

Dr Engel said the GDR was shortly bringing out a multivolume German-Hindi and Hindi-German dictionaries. The project is in its final stages and the volumes will be published within a year or two. The GDR delegation also held talks with the officials of the Health Ministry to fix equivalents of medical degrees acceptable to the two countries.

CSO: 4220

INDIA

DELEGATE ADDRESSES UN ECONOMIC GROUP

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 23 Oct 80 p 3

[Text] United Nations, Oct 24 (PTI)--India yesterday renewed with call for north-south cooperation in accelerating development of the economies of developing countries and aiding in the rapid improvement of the living standards of the world's poor. [as published]

The Indian delegate, N. C. Parashar, MP, made a 25-page statement in the Economic Committee covering all aspects of development. The committee is currently hearing statements on the issue of development and international economic cooperation.

"If the world is helplessly witnessing the gradual crumbling of the edifice of it to a great extent must be attributed to continuing and deepening disparities in economic opportunities and standards of living in different parts of the world," Mr Parashar said. [as published]

Mr Parashar said that the industrialized countries had so far failed to recognise the need for any remedies beyond short-term solutions to bridge current gaps.

He said the special session of the assembly to evolve an agreement on the procedure and agenda for the global round of negotiations had failed "because of the incomprehensible stubbornness of a few member states."

While the economic committee is expected to come up with a resolution on the issue of global negotiations, there has been no development during the current session, until now, suggesting an early reopening of talks for reactivating the proposed north-south dialogue. The West German President of the current assembly session Rudiger Von Wechmar has indicated he would set up a "Friends of the President Committee" to find a way for ending the "impasse."

The committee includes India but it has not still begun its work, upon its outcome would depend the further course of action that would be initiated.

Mr Parashar, in his speech, welcomed the consensus reached during the special session on the negotiated text of the international development strategy for the 1980s--the third development decade--but regretted that some of the developed states had expressed reservations.

He also focussed attention on the failure of the UNIDO conference at New Delhi because of the rigid attitudes of western nation. [as published]

However, the Vienna meeting of the Industrial Development Board had reached some measure of agreement including on defining priority areas of UNIDO's activities. [as published] This needed to be followed up vigorously at the next UNIDO's general conference.

He regretted that preparatory work for holding the proposed UN conference on new and renewable sources of energy had been today.

CSO: 4220

CANADIAN MILITARY TRANSPORT PLANE CONSIDERED

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 29 Oct 80 p 9

[Text] New Delhi, Oct. 28.--Hindustan Aeronautics, Bangalore, may enter into collaboration with the De Havilland Company of Canada for manufacturing the Indian version of the Buffalo aircraft.

Negotiations between representatives of the Indian public sector firm and the Canadian company are now understood to have reached the final stage.

India has been eager to manufacture a transport aircraft for military use and also a civilian aircraft for the proposed third-level air service to link the various as yet unconnected parts of the country.

A few days ago an impressive demonstration of the military version of the Buffalo aircraft was given at Safdarjung airport, where the aircraft showed that it could land and take off on a 2,500-ft strip.

India's keenness to tie up with De Havilland is largely because the Canadian company is prepared to offer the knowhow not only of its DHC-32 military Buffalo transport aircraft, but also of the civilian aircraft.

The plane fits the requirements of both the military and the proposed third-level air service, as a STOL (short take-off and landing) aircraft which can be used at different altitudes and whose fuel consumption is economical.

The DHC-32 Buffalo transport aircraft, like its civilian counterpart, has general electric engines mounted on it and is credited to be simple, sturdy and dependable.

Meanwhile, the third-level air service is scheduled to start operation in the North-east from January 26. Initially, Indian Airlines has agreed to release two of its Fokker Friendship aircraft to get the service started.

The Braganza committee, which had been asked to evaluate the most suitable aircraft for operating the third-level service has, in its report submitted a fortnight ago, recommended the Canadian Twin Otter (manufactured by De Havilland), the Italian Cessna and the West German Dornier. While the civilian version of the Buffalo (transporter) can carry between 45 and 50 passengers, the Twin Otter can take up to 25 passengers and the Italian and West German aircraft between 15 and 20 passengers.

CSO: 4220

DELHI MOVES TO ATTRACT PETRODOLLAR INVESTMENT

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 29 Oct 80 p 1

[Text]

NEW DELHI, Oct. 28.—The Government today announced a series of concessions to attract petrodollar investment in key industries in the country and expects that priority areas like fertilizer, cement, petrochemicals and paper and pulp will benefit. Investment is to be especially encouraged in hotels.

The incentives dilute the policy on foreign investment which has so far been limited to encouraging transfer of technology not available indigenously or to promoting export-oriented production.

Oil-exporting countries with surplus investible funds will now be allowed to make investment proposals which need not be linked with transfer of technology if they provide up to 60% of the equity in the project.

It is hoped the projects concerning oil will provide for sufficient production to enable exports either to OPEC countries or to the industrialized countries in the West. The Government thinks this will increase the scope for raising foreign loans for such joint ventures.

Among the incentives allowed is investment in new Indian companies provided they are in what is called "portfolio investment" (such as fertilizer, cement and others) as long as petrodollar investment is limited to 40%.

The new companies will be required to be export-oriented or

undertake manufacturing industries in key sectors covered under Appendix I of the Industrial Policy of 1972.

The announcement says investment will also be allowed in hospitals which will have adequate provision for outdoor and emergency medical services and a minimum occupancy for Indian patients. This is apparently because a large number of Arabs and others in the Persian Gulf come to India for medical treatment.

PTI adds: The Government has now decided to take advantage of the surplus liquidity of the oil-exporting countries which so far had been investing their funds mainly in developed countries but had lately begun to look for other avenues.

ENERGY MINISTRY REPORTS INCREASE IN POWER OUTPUT

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 27 Oct 80 p 8

(Text) The power situation in the country has improved further with a 7 per cent increase since last month, as compared to the corresponding period last year, reports UNI.

This overall increase on power output could increase by more than 10 per cent for the year as a whole provided the level of movement of coal to the thermal stations all over the country is kept to around four million tonnes, according to Energy Ministry sources.

The total generation of power in the country during September last was 9485 million units, as against the generation of 8873 million units in the corresponding month for last year.

Though more thermal units have now become available for generating power, the low level of movement of coal has affected supplies to the power stations. In many of the major thermal stations, the coal stocks position is "critical," with stocks ranging from only two to four days consumption.

During the current quarter, official sources pointed out that the power stations would require a loading of about 4000 wagons per day. As against this, the present level of loading is less than 2,500 wagons per day. The result is that a number of power stations are virtually operating on a "wagon to boiler basis."

Unless the power stations are able to build up local stocks they will have to cut back on generation, which will affect the rate of growth of generation of power during the year. This will also seriously affect industrial development in the areas served by these power stations.

The Energy Ministry is, however, confident of achieving the target for production of 113.5 million tonnes of coal during the current financial year.

The trend in coal production during the last six months of the current financial year is quite satisfactory. However, achievement of the targetted production of 113.5 million tonnes this year would create certain problems, unless the transportation of coal increases substantially from its existing levels.

The present stocks of coal at pit heads are nearly 13 million tonnes.

CSO: 4220

DAYAL REPORTS TO ACADEMY ENERGY SYMPOSIUM

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 27 Oct 80 p 5

[Text] Allahabad, Oct 26 (PTI)--India has enough potential of alternate energy sources to replace more than one-third of the oil and coal it would require in the year 2001, Mr Maheswar Dayal, adviser in the Department of Science and Technology (DST) said here today.

In a detailed report to the National Academy of Sciences symposium on 'alternate energy' Mr Dayal said the goal could be reached if the relevant projects on solar, biomass, biogas and wind energy were taken up now on priority basis.

According to the DST study, India's alternative energy and potential could meet the demands of the entire agricultural sector, and replace one-fourth of the fuel oil used in industries, half of the kerosene used in households and half of the diesel and gasoline used in transport sector.

Mr Dayal, who is also the chief of the DST's energy projects, said that alternate energy would be available through harnessing solar wind, and biomass energy and utilising the 650 million tonnes of "cow dung" which alone is equivalent to 35 billion units of electrical energy or three times electrical energy presently used in agriculture.

Mr Dayal said DST had already launched a major programme on biogas. Twenty community size biogas plants were being set up this year in different parts of the country to supply gas for cooking, lighting and running engines in power mills and threshers and for generating electricity.

The biogas that could be produced in the country cannot only replace the entire diesel used for agriculture, but also provide for other agricultural operations, rural industry and domestic use, he added.

According to the DST study the cost of electricity generation from biogas is Rs 1100 per kilowatt or about half of what it would cost a coal fired station to generate and transmit the same amount of power to villages.

CSO: 4220

IRRIGATION MINISTER ADDRESS WATER USAGE PARLEY

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 24 Oct 80 p 13

[Text] New Delhi, October 23. A national plan for the interlinking of river systems in India and for creating a chain of water storage points has been drawn up by the government with a view to maximising utilisation of available waters, according to Mr Kedar Pandey, Union irrigation minister.

Mr Pandey told the inaugural session of the third Afro-Asian regional conference of the international commission on irrigation and drainage (ICID) today that the plan was estimated to cost Rs 50,000 crores. Besides the various states of India, neighbouring countries would also stand to benefit from it.

In India, the plan when completed would mean irrigation facilities for an additional 35 million hectares. It would also generate additional 40 million kw of hydro power. Flood control and better navigation facilities would be the other benefits of the plan.

With a sharp increase in population and with practically the entire arable area under cultivation, Mr Pandey said, the only hope of developing countries in meeting future food and fibre requirements was to maximise the agricultural output per unit area.

This was the reason why the Central government had given high priority to the improvement of irrigation facilities and more efficient water utilisation.

Annual Increase

Up to March last, India had an irrigation potential of 57 million hectares. In the sixth plan period (1980-85), three million hectares of additional irrigation would be created every year.

The theme of the five-day conference, organised by the central board of irrigation and power, is "Management of water in irrigation systems, including conjunctive use of surface and ground waters and command area development."

PTI adds: The minister noted that the irrigated area in the world as a whole had risen from 48 million hectares in 1900 to over 200 million hectares in 1970. By the turn of the century, the world area under irrigation would need to be 500 million hectares. This called for a plan of conservation of all known resources of fresh water.

He said he was aware of the opposition from some quarters to any plan for large-scale interference with the water systems for creating viable irrigation facilities. Their plea was that such projects interfered with the ecosystems. On this issue, he would only like to say that a compromise should be arrived at between the needs of conservation and of development.

Reasonable Protection

The minister said that of about 40 million hectares of flood-prone areas in India, reasonable protection had so far been provided to about 11 million hectares at a cost of about Rs 1,000 crores.

Problems of floods as well as drought, he observed, could be best tackled by the overall development of the water resources. When sizable storage reservoirs would have been built, the surplus waters in the rivers in the monsoon would be impounded, reducing the fury and destructiveness of the floods. The impounded water would be available for irrigation on a larger scale, which would blunt the onslaught of drought, should there be one.

A start in this direction had already been made in India by the decision to set up the Brahmaputra board for drawing up a master plan for that river. New policy initiative had also been taken for developing and training and harnessing the common rivers between India and Nepal, Mr Pandey said.

CSO: 4220

QUAKE RECORDING INSTRUMENTS INSTALLED IN NORTHEAST

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 24 Oct 80 p 14

[Text] Roorkee, October 23--Instruments, capable of recording the force of an earthquake at areas of the highest intensity, have been installed in over 15 cities in the earthquake-prone Himalayan and north-eastern regions of the country.

The instruments--16 strong motion accelographs and 80 structural response recorders--have been prepared and installed by the earthquake engineering department of Roorkee University.

This is under the first phase of a 15-year project known as the Indian national strong motion instrumentation network. The programme envisages the installing of 100 strong motion accelographs and 500 structural response recorders in the regions.

Prediction Difficult

According to the head of the department, Dr A.S. Chandrasekaran, data collected by these instruments would be utilised for planning and improving buildings and other engineering structures in these regions.

Dr Chandrasekaran said that it was extremely difficult to predict earthquakes. It was next to impossible to say when, where and how strong an earthquake would be. Research of this kind would be extremely expensive and the only alternative was to study how best to improve engineering structures so that destruction to life and property is minimised.

He said that the first phase covered four years and cost Rs 20 lakhs.

The cities where the new instruments have been installed include Leh, Srinagar, Mandi, Simla, Roorkee, Pithorgarh, Delhi, Jorhat, Tejpur and Gauhati.

Experts will be meeting in Delhi, next month, to review the first phase of the project and chalk out in detail, the programme for the second and the final phase.

CSO: 4220

PRODUCING STATES DEMAND HIGHER WHEAT PRICES

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 25 Oct 80 pp 1, 7

[Text] Most of the wheat-producing states on Friday demanded not only a higher procurement price for wheat but also a higher issue price than the one recommended by the Agricultural Prices Commission for the 1981-82 marketing season.

The demand for procurement price of wheat ranged between Rs 127 and Rs 150 per quintal and for barley between Rs 95 and Rs 140 per quintal. The APC has recommended Rs 127 a quintal as the procurement price for wheat.

Excepting Assam and Rajasthan, all the other States present at the meeting convened by the Agriculture Minister Rao Birendra Singh to discuss price policy, demanded higher price under the plea that the "cost of production had considerably increased" and that "the producers should get reasonable return for their produce."

The States, also pleaded for increase in the issue price of wheat. The issue price of wheat last season was Rs 130 a quintal.

However, there was a suggestion that there could be dual issue price--one for the vulnerable section and the other for the general consumer.

Excepting West Bengal and Jammu and Kashmir, all the other States present were ready for increase in the issue price in the wake of their demand for higher procurement price of wheat.

Of the 11 wheat-growing States present at the meeting, five--Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh--were represented by their Chief Ministers, whereas West Bengal, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Jammu and Kashmir and Bihar were represented by their Food or Agriculture Ministers. The principal adviser to the Governor represented Assam.

The Union Government will take a decision on the rabi price policy in the context of today's discussions.

West Bengal felt that there should be some increase in procurement price but the issue price should not be raised keeping in view the general economic situation in the country today. Jammu and Kashmir also volunteered to fall in line with the Centre's decision provided it did not put any extra burden on the State.

The maximum procurement price of Rs 150 a quintal was demanded by Harvana, while Punjab and Karnataka sought Rs 142.

In his inaugural address, Mr Rao Birendra Singh was critical of those States which had announced higher procurement prices than those fixed by the Centre.

Stating that some States had announced higher prices for wheat and groundnut, he said this not only caused embarrassment to the Centre but was likely to create difficulties for other States as well.

The Minister said the States should not undercut each other in the matter of prices and suggested that some mechanism should be evolved for coordination between the States to thrash out the matter.

He said that if such a coordinating body was found unworkable, a standing committee or a forum could be set up at the Central level.

Stating that the Centre was already overburdened due to subsidising the issue price, Rao Birendra Singh said for an increase of one rupee in the procurement price, the subsidy came to about Rs 7.5 crore.

He said the country should have a buffer stock of at least 20 million tonnes, if not more. In this context, wheat procurement in the coming season should at least be nine million tonnes, he added.

CSO: 4220

BRIEFS

REFUGEES REPATRIATED--Over 342,000 persons of Indian origin were repatriated to India from Sri Lanka under the agreement of 1974 between the two countries. This was stated by External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao in the Upper House of Parliament. [Text] [BK211320 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 21 Nov 80]

ARRESTS IN IMPHAL--Imphal, October 22 (UNI)--Four top PREPAK leaders, including Mr Surenmacha Singh, were arrested by the police from their hide-out last night, according to a reliable source. The sources said one stengun and some hand-grenades were also recovered by the police. The Manipur government had some time ago announced a reward of Rs 15,000 for the capture of Mr Surenmacha. [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 23 Oct 80 p 1]

KASHMIR COMMUNAL FORCES--Srinagar, October 22 (PTI)--Seven presidents of the district Congress(I) committees of Kashmir valley and the Kargil area of Ladakh today expressed concern at the growing activities of communal forces, such as the Jamaat-i-Islami and the RSS in Jammu and Kashmir. In a joint statement issued here today, they also warned that any attempt at turning a blind eye towards the activities of these forces "would amount to endangering the cherished ideal of secularism and communal harmony." Stressing the need for meeting the challenge of the forces at an ideological level, the statement said that "some of the recent events have shown that these forces have been spreading their tentacles with the object of subverting our socio-political values." [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 23 Oct 80 p 9]

BYELECTIONS POSTPONED--New Delhi, October 23 (PTI)--The election commission today finally decided not to hold by-elections on November 23 to any of the Lok Sabha and assembly constituencies in Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. The by-elections, which are due for five Lok Sabha and six assembly segments in UP and one Lok Sabha and six assembly constituencies in West Bengal, will now be held some time next year. The election commission has already announced the schedule for the by-elections to 15 assembly constituencies in seven states where notifications are in the process of being issued by the respective state governments. The states where the by-elections are being held on November 23 are Haryana (3), Rajasthan (1), Madhya Pradesh (2), Gujarat (2), Orissa (3), Maharashtra (2) and Karnataka (2). The Commission has already announced that the by-elections to 15 assembly constituencies in Bihar, Assam, Manipur, Tripura, Meghalaya, Andhra Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh have been put off for the time being. [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 24 Oct 80 p 1]

SIKH AUTONOMY URGED--Amritsar, October 23 (UNI)--The Talwandi faction of the Akali Dal has demanded the creation of an "autonomous region" in northern India for the protection of Sikh interests. A resolution unanimously passed at a four-hour meeting of the working committee of the Talwandi group Akali Dal said that the

"autonomous region may be declared as entitled to frame its own internal constitution on the basis of having all powers to and for itself, except foreign affairs, defence, currency and general communications, which are to remain with the federal Indian government." [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 24 Oct 80 p 1]

DEFENSE CADRE REVIEW--New Delhi, October 23 (PTI)--The Union government is reported to have approved the review of defence cadre to provide more senior positions in the army, navy and air force. The three service chiefs have been informed of the government decision through a formal communication issued by the ministry of defence last week. Promotions under the cadre review would be carried out during the next three years, informed sources said. Rear-admiral R. H. Tahiltani, deputy chief of naval staff, naval headquarters, has been promoted to the rank of vice-admiral as part of the cadre review. There will be 11 more lieutenants-general in the army, bringing the total strength of three star generals to 37. The navy will have three additional posts of vice-admirals, increasing their number to nine, while the air force will have four more air marshals (total strength 14). No decision about increasing the strength of army brigadiers has so far been taken, informed sources said. [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 24 Oct 80 p 6]

DPRK INVITES GANDHI--New Delhi, October 23 (UNI)--The North Korean President, Mr Kim Il-song, has invited Prime Minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi, to visit his country. The invitation was conveyed through a Congress(I) delegation which attended the sixth party congress of the ruling Workers' Party of Korea. [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 24 Oct 80 p 14]

KARNATAKA BYELECTIONS--Bangalore, Oct 23--Two byelections will be held to the Karnataka Legislative Assembly on November 23. These have been caused by Mr T.R. Shamanna (Janata), who represented the Basavangudi constituency in Bangalore, being elected to the Lok Sabha last January and the death of K.H. Siddaramappa (Congress-I) who represented the Holalkere constituency in Chitradurga district. Much importance is being attached to these byelections because this will be first time that the nine-month-old Gundu Rao Government would be facing the electorate. In almost all his public speeches in recent months the Chief Minister has stressed that his party, the Congress(I) has the support of the people. After its shattering defeat in the Lok Sabha elections, the Congress (U), the main Opposition in the Assembly, is in an unenviable position. It fought the Lok Sabha election being in office. Now it will have to face the voters as an Opposition Party. It is to be seen whether the party led by Mr Devaraj Urs will fight the two byelections on its own or will have an alliance or understanding with such other the CPI(M) and the CPI. [Text] [Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 24 Oct 80 p 12]

RSP PARTY-SPLIT--New Delhi, Oct. 24--A delegates' conference of the Revolutionary Socialist Party (RSP) here is claimed to have broken off from the RSP and formed a new party, the Revolutionary Socialist Party (National). Mr R. M. Parameswaran, claiming himself as the general secretary of the new party, said later the RSP(N) would hereafter have nothing to do with the RSP led by Mr Tridib Kumar Chaudhary. The conference also elected a 21-member central committee and a central secretariat of nine members, Mr Parameswaran said.--PTI. [Text] [Madras THE HINDU in English 25 Oct 80 p 1]

PRICE INDEX RISE--The official wholesale price index touched a new high at 264.5 points in the week ended 11 October, representing an 18 per cent increase since the beginning of 1980, reports PTI. Although the rate of inflation for the quarter ending 11 October was contained at three per cent compared to 9.7 per cent in the preceding quarter ending 12 July, the index has all along remained on an upward course. [Text] [New Delhi PATRIOT in English 25 Oct 80 p 1]

MESSAGE TO SOVIET LEADER--Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi has expressed confidence that relations between India and Soviet Union would grow stronger under the new Prime Minister Mikhail Tikhonov. In a message on Saturday, congratulating Mr Tikhonov on his assumption of office, Mrs Gandhi said that the relations between the two countries and their people had always been marked by close friendship, understanding and cooperation. She said, "on behalf of the people and Government of India and on my own behalf, please accept our warm congratulations on your assumption of office of the chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR." "Relations between our two countries and our two peoples have always been marked by close friendship, understanding and cooperation. I am confident that relations will grow even stronger under your excellency's chairmanship of the Council of Ministers in the interest of our two peoples and in the cause of world peace and stability." [Text] [New Delhi PATRIOT in English 26 Oct 80 pp 1, 10]

ROMANIAN PROTOCOL DETAILS--Romania has agreed to supply petroleum products to India on a long-term basis under a protocol signed at the fifth meeting of the Indo-Romanian Joint Commission for Economic, Technical and scientific cooperation at Bucharest. Under the protocol the two countries have also agreed to step up their trade by 10 per cent over the current year's target and also identified several new fields. The protocol also provides for cooperation in joint ventures in third countries. There is provision for setting up of a mechanism for reviewing progress periodically and ensuring implementation of the decisions taken. The fields in which cooperation is envisaged include engineering goods, machine tools, automotive industry, electronics, metallurgical industry, petroleum and petrochemicals, pharmaceuticals, oil equipment and agriculture. [Text] [New Delhi PATRIOT in English 26 Oct 80 p 1]

TANK EVALUATION--India is evaluating the performance of the three main battle tanks manufactured in the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom and West Germany before deciding to acquire the one most suitable for the Indian Army, reports PTI. The tanks, which were being considered along with the Russian T-72, were the British Challenger and the German Leopard. The firing tests of these tanks have been watched by the defence experts. The main battle tank now under consideration is a part of the modernisation programme of India's defence forces aimed at increasing the 'kill and fire power of the armoured division.' The main battle tank expected to be acquired would also meet the requirement of the 80s. Defence experts felt that Vijayanta, though a current equipment with a fairly powerful gun would soon be out of date. Developing countries had designed tanks with more powerful guns. Most of the European, Russian and American tanks now had 105 and 125 mm guns. Vijayanta has only 105 mm gun. [Text] [New Delhi PATRIOT in English 27 Oct 80 p 5]

IMPORTANT COMMUNIST DIES--Mr Dinesh Mazumder, the CPI(M) MLA, member of the party's State Committee and Chief Whip of the Left Front in the West Bengal Assembly died at the SSKM hospital in Calcutta on Tuesday afternoon. He was admitted there after a severe attack of cerebral thrombosis on October 25. He was 47. He is survived by his wife and a daughter. The Chief Minister expressed his deep shock at the death. Mr Promode Das Gupta, who was at Digha, decided to cut short his visit and return to Calcutta. Mr Makhan Paul, general secretary of the West Bengal State Committee of the RSP, described the death as a great loss to the Left movement in the State. The State Secretariat of the CPI expressed shock at the untimely death of Mr Mazumder who was an important leader of the students and youth movement and a leading Marxist in the State. [Excerpts] [Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 29 Oct 80 pp 1, 9]

JAMMU, KASHMIR COMMITTEE--Srinagar, Oct. 28--The Jammu and Kashmir Government has decided to extend the term of the joint Army and civil officials inquiry committee, headed by the retired Chief Justice of Jammu and Kashmir High Court Mian Jalauddin. It is inquiring into clashes between Army personnel and civilians here on July 26 and 27 this year. Its term will end in January 1981. An official spokesman said the committee, which was appointed in August, was to have completed the inquiry by the end of October. [Text] [Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 29 Oct 80 p 7]

INDUSTRIAL OUTPUT--The monthly index of industrial production for June stood at 141.8. It was higher than the index for June, 1979 by 0.4%, says PIB. The growth rate during the first six months of 1980 over the same period of 1979 showed a fall of 2.5%. The growth rate for the three months of the current financial year 1980-81 over the corresponding period of 1979-80 showed a fall of 1.6%. Compared to last month, the decrease in index is accounted mainly by the decrease in production of "mining and quarrying" electricity, "basic metal industries" and "tobacco manufactures," against increase in production of "machinery except electrical machinery," food manufacturing industries except beverage industries," electrical machinery, apparatus, appliances and supplies and rubber products. [punctuation as published] [Excerpt] [Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 29 Oct 80 p 15]

JAMMU, KASHMIR UNDER ARTICLES 19, 25--Srinagar, Sept 2 (PTI)--Jammu and Kashmir State has now been brought on par with rest of the country with regard to the implementation of the provisions of Article 19 and 35 of the Constitution of India, according to an official sources. [as published] The two articles of the Constitution were hitherto applicable to the State in terms of presidential order of 1954 which contained exceptions and modifications in the two articles relating to exercise of Fundamental Rights. The restrictions placed on the application of Article 19 and 35 were provided for a period of 25 years, which expired on the midnight of 13th May this year. By virtue of these modifications, Jammu and Kashmir legislature was authorised to place "reasonable restrictions" on the application of Article 19 to Jammu and Kashmir in the interests of the "security of the State." The modifications to Article 35 protected the State Preventive Detention Law, including the State Public Safety Act, from being challenged on the ground of their being inconsistent with third part of the Constitution of India. [Text] [New Delhi PATRIOT in English 3 Sep 80 p 10]

MIZORAM ORDER--Aizawl, September 3--The Mizoram government has extended the period of the notification under the Assam disturbed areas act, 1955 and the armed forces (special powers) act, 1958 to the state for another six months from September 20. The period of the acts, which were in force in Mizoram, was to expire on September 19. According to official sources, the peace talks between New Delhi, and the MOI would, however, continue in spite of the renewal of the notifications. (Text) (Amhar THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 3 Sep 80 p 13)

TRIPURA ORDER--Agartala, September 3 (UPI)--The Tripura Cabinet at an urgent meeting here yesterday decided to extend the period of the notifications under the Assam disturbed areas act, 1955, and the armed forces (special powers) act, 1958, as extended to Tripura for another three months, according to official sources. Both these acts were enforced in the state's two disturbed districts--Tripura West and Tripura South--comprising seven sub-divisions for a period of three months on June 9. The cabinet also approved the draft of the Tripura (Amendment) Criminal Jurisdiction ordinance, 1980, with modifications suggested by the Union government in regard to the procedure to be followed by the special courts. Since the chief minister, Mr Nripen Chakrabarti, was indisposed, the minister in charge of tribal welfare and education, Mr Dasarath Dev, presided over the meeting of the council of ministers. Sporadic incidents of arson by miscreants in Tripura's two disturbed districts were still being reported, official sources said. The miscreants had fired about 13 houses, mostly vacant, under Jirania police station area, in the West district during the past few days, the sources said. Reports of similar incidents were also being received from Khurai and Bazar sub-divisions in the West district and Idarpur and Amarpur subdivisions in the South district, the sources added. (Text) (Amhar THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 3 Sep 80 p 13)

APPOINTMENT TO ETHIOPIA--Prem Kumar Bhowar, presently minister in the embassy of India, Moscow, has been appointed ambassador of India to Ethiopia in succession to Vinay Kumar Verma. He is expected to take up his assignment shortly. (Text) (RE141237 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1618 GMT 12 Nov 80 BK)

TRADE WITH USSR--The Public Sector Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi, has secured export orders worth 7 crore rupees from the Soviet Union. (Text) (Delhi Domestic Service in English 1210 GMT 4 Nov 80 BK)

ALICE EDWART TO USSR--The northern state of Haryana is to export rice worth \$40 million worth to the Soviet Union. This was disclosed by State Cooperation Minister J. S. Singh at Jind. (Text) (Delhi General Overseas Service in 1400 GMT 13 Nov 80 BK)

NEW COMMISSIONER TO BARBADOS--Ramesh Chandra Shukla, high commissioner-designate of India to Trinidad and Tobago, has been concurrently accredited as high commissioner of India to Barbados with residence in Port of Spain. (Text) (RE180443 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1442 GMT 17 Nov 80 BK)

NEW MINISTERIAL ASSIGNMENT--Maula Arjun, deputy minister for railways, will also hold additional charge of parliamentary affairs. This was stated in a presidential communique issued on 17 November. (Delhi Domestic Service in English 0746 GMT 18 Nov 80)

BRIEFS

CONGRESS IN KOMPONG SPEU--On 11 August, a meeting was held in Kompong Speu Province to sum up the achievements scored in the first semester and discuss plans for the rest of the year in the presence of the Provincial People's Revolutionary Committee chairman (Hieng Sayy). Chairmen of the People's Revolutionary committees of all districts, chiefs of the provincial services and Vietnamese experts were also present. [BK191249 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1230 GMT 29 Aug 80 BK]

SRV IRRIGATION ASSISTANCE--In the last 4 months, farm tool plant No 276 from Ho Chi Minh City have helped build irrigation projects in Battambang, Kompong Speu, Takeo and Pursat provinces. The contribution consisted of a number of machines, a quantity of iron and some technicians. [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1230 GMT 29 Aug 80 BK]

MORE ON KOMPONG SPEU CONGRESS--At the end of August, a congress was held in Kompong Speu Province to sum up the results of mass stimulation movement during the first semester. Comrade (Ches Saron), secretary of the provincial KNUFNS committee; Comrade (Ban Chey), chairman of the Provincial People's Revolutionary Committee; Comrade (Kang Chan) representing the defense ministry; and other officials were present. Speeches on successes on defense and mass movement reported. [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 6 Sep 80 BK]

MILITARY TRAINING IN KOMPONG THOM--On 25 August, a ceremony was held at the military training center at Kompong Thom, Kompong Thom Province to open the 2d training course, (Kim Yin), (Bos Champ) of the Provincial People's Revolutionary Committee; other provincial officials and Vietnamese experts were present. [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1100 GMT 4 Sep 80 BK]

INTERNATIONAL ANTI-ILLITERACY DAY--On 9 September, a seminar was hosted by the directorate of adult education of the Ministry of National Education at the Central Pedagogic and Critique School to mark the International anti-illiteracy day. Comrade Pen Navouth, vice minister of national education was present. He spoke on literacy development recorded throughout the country. [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1230 GMT 11 Sep 80 BK]

HEALTH MINISTRY AID ACTIVITIES--During the second week of August, the Ministry of Health received and distributed aid to various areas. The aid received consisted of 21,047 kg of medicine, 1,127 kg of raw material, 11,736 kg of service supplies and 38,418 kg of consumer goods. The aid distributed amounted to 14,473 kg of consumer goods and service supplies and handed to various departments, hospitals, factories and provinces. The Red Cross Society also distributed 1,382 kg of medicine, over 7,180 kg of service materials, more than 8,153 kg of consumer goods and 20

parcels of relief goods for refugees; and received 6,000 kg of packed noodles, 300 kg of sugar, 2,935 kg of milk product, 1,268 kg of medicine and 153 kg of service material. [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1100 GMT 30 Aug 80 BK]

AID DISTRIBUTION IN ROMDUOL--On 20 August, the committee in charge of humanitarian aid distributed 34 tons of rice, 17 tons of corn, 8 tons of sugar, 10 tons of mung bean and 9 tons of cooking oil to the inhabitants of Romduol District, Svay Rieng Province. On 23 August the committee also distributed to the people of Kompong Rou District 40 tons of rice, 20 tons of corn, 9 tons of sugar, 10 tons of mung bean and 9.5 tons of cooking oil. [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1100 GMT 30 Aug 80 BK]

AID DISTRIBUTION TO NORTHEAST--On 24 July, a Health Ministry-Red Cross delegation led by Comrade Mrs Chey Kanh Nha, vice minister of health, distributed aid to the people in Mondulkiri, Ratanakiri and Stung Treng Provinces. Each province received about 1,723 kg of aid made up of milk, sugar, biscuit, soap, clothing, fabric, note books, sewing materials, blankets and so on. [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1100 GMT 3 Sep 80 BK]

AID DISTRIBUTION IN PREY VENG--A delegation of the Prey Veng Province's aid reception committee brought 281.5 tons of aid to the inhabitants in the province. The aid consisted of 140.5 tons of rice, 70.25 tons of corn, 17 tons of flour, 26.65 tons of sugar and 26.65 tons of cooking oil. It was directly distributed to the people in Prey Veng and Kanchriea Districts. [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1100 GMT 6 Sep 80 BK]

AID DISTRIBUTION IN KOMPONG SPEU--Between 12 and 16 August, a delegation of the Phnom Penh municipal aid reception committee led by Comrade [Nhoek Kim Tang] distributed aid to the people in four districts in Kompong Speu Province. Representatives of the aid reception committee, provincial, district and commune People's Revolutionary Committee and other officials were also present. The aid consisted of powdered milk, sugar, mung bean, cooking oil and flour. [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1100 GMT 10 Sep 80 BK]

AID DISTRIBUTION IN KAMPOT--In August, a delegation of the aid reception and distribution committee led by Comrade (Mean Saran) distributed aid to the people in four districts of Kampot Province. Representatives of the district People's Revolutionary Committees, and other officials were also present. The aid consisted of 33,687 kg of sugar, 34,236 kg of mung bean and 34,469 kg of cooking oil was distributed. [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1230 GMT 11 Sep 80 BK]

CLO: 4212

POSITION OF CHINESE REPORTED GETTING WORSE

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALA SIA in Chinese 12 Sep 80 p 4

[Text] The Port Swettenham Malayan Chinese Association's youth league branch and its women's division jointly held a political symposium at the association's headquarters in Leau the day before yesterday.

Invited to attend the gathering and give keynote speeches were Datuk Chan Eng Sam, Port Swettenham district assemblyman; Chew Hock Thye, general secretary of the Malayan Chinese Youth League; Reserve Datuk Rap Peng Han, leader of the Malayan Chinese Youth League in Selangor State; and Sew Thian Poo and Yap Thian Poo, both representing the Malayan Chinese Youth League general headquarters. Other participants included many officers of the Malayan Chinese Youth League in Selangor State and from its nine branches in Port Swettenham District.

The meeting was opened by Wee Lun, chairman of the Leau Malayan Chinese Association, who, after thanking all for their presence, said, "The purpose of this symposium is to impart an understanding of political thought to our party members and enhance their consciousness so they can think about and cope with the numerous problems vis-a-vis our party and our country."

Wee Lun stressed, "Our party members in the Port Swettenham District have a lofty spirit of party loyalty and love. They dare to come out and fight for the benefit of the party and the people, no matter what the circumstances."

"Flipping through the pages of history, we know that the 1969 general election resulted in the near total defeat of Selangor Malayan Chinese Association seats in the state assembly. The only survival was this seat at Sin Ku Mao [phonetic] of the Port Swettenham District. At that time, this seat was taken by Datuk Tan Keong Han, who played a decisive part; otherwise, the Selangor State Assembly would have held the reins of government for an opposition party. This fact reflected the effectiveness of our party members in the Port Swettenham district."

"During the 1978 national election, we lost the assembly seat at Sin Ku Mao because candidate Datuk Tan Keong Han made a mistake in completing the electioneering form and therefore lost his representation rights. Thus the seat was won by the opposition party without much ado. This unexpected turn of events resulted in a stagnation of our activities. I therefore earnestly hope that the leadership level of our party will help and show concern for us in our villages and areas. In conclusion, I hope our members, with their spirit of party love and loyalty at all times, will build up a healthier and stronger party."

Datuk Chan Eng Sim said in his speech, "We should relentlessly study the close relationship between politics and the environment.

"The aims of the Malayan Chinese Association are to unify our Chinese compatriots and fight for our legitimate interests in order to establish a stable, progressive, and prosperous society in our country. Our party has not done its best in fulfilling its tasks, of course, and we should therefore make a self-examination.

"Our country has been independent for 23 years. We cannot deny the fact that our circumstances and position have been going from bad to worse, and that therein lie serious dangers and anxieties.

"Before independence, the Malays were most backward in the economic, educational, and political fields, and at the time Chinese society was way ahead of the Malays. In making the same comparison 23 years later today, we find that the Malays have exceeded the Chinese in cultural, political, and economic matters. Now you ask, what will be the position of us Chinese in the days to come?"

By way of example, Datuk Chan Eng Sim said, "The Malays' efforts in playing politics and grasping governmental power may be likened to a tree with its roots spreading underneath. On the other hand, we Chinese are mostly immersed in business and pass a contented life, just like the green leaves of a tree. But you must know that if a tree has roots, leaves will grow on it in due course. On the other hand, if the leaves have not roots and are not supplied with moisture, they will wither and fall. The present position of our Chinese compatriots is that they are like "leaves," while the Malays hold an optimistic future.

"We must no longer be intoxicated by the joy of our imaginary successes. We should wake up from our dreams, understand the real situation and the difficult problems being faced by our compatriots, and seek their solutions. All this must be studied by this symposium.

"We need not deceive ourselves. We should step out on firm ground, face the facts, find the mistakes, and go after the roots of the problems.

"The future and the fate of our Chinese compatriots are beyond prediction and imagination. Who would dare say that the fundamental interests and position of our Chinese community could not suffer the fate of annihilation? We cannot blame others for the rise and fall of a people. We must rise up ourselves and seek an effective cure ourselves."

Chew Hock Thye, general secretary of the Malayan Chinese Youth League, pointed out, "As vanguards of the Malayan Chinese Association, we will righteously and sternly expose the machinations of extremism and racism prevailing among our nationalities and fight them to the end."

He stated, "All Malayan Chinese Youth League members will try their utmost to uphold and back moderate and wise national leaders. Only by relying on the reasonableness and leadership of moderate and farsighted leaders can the fate and interests of 13 million people of various nationalities be safeguarded.

"The main theme of our National Day celebrations this year is 'Be disciplined and serve the country.' This is indeed a thought-provoking theme, because the prosperity, progress, security, and freedom of this era have brought along abnormal developments and moral dangers to the entire society. Some people will go to any length to grab luxuries and wealth, to abuse democracy and freedom, laws and power, and even to threaten goodwill among men, understanding among groups, and solidarity among races.

"As party members of the Malayan Chinese Association, we can change the slogan 'Be disciplined and serve the country' to 'Be disciplined and serve our party and league,' depending on the mutual encouragement and supervision of our party comrades--leadership-level and basic-level comrades.

"In our party we absolutely will not tolerate cliquism, for it would affect the party's prestige and weaken its power. We should all unite as one, plan and work collectively, canvas opinions, and benefit from them in order to overcome our difficulties.

"Our various branches often hold cadre training classes and political symposiums regularly. Our purpose is to impart correct political awareness to our members and rectify our party's erroneous concepts, in order to minimize our bickerings and maintain our party spirit.

"Criticisms and scoldings will not help things out. Only by your active participation, service to the party and league, and submission of constructive opinions can our party bring benefits and advantages to the Chinese community."

Seow Thian Poo, representing the Malayan Chinese Youth League General Headquarters, narrated the history and development of the Malayan Chinese Association. He said, "In June 1948, the then Malayan British colonial government issued an emergency law ordering the Chinese people to move into a new village.

"At that time, the villagers at South Sea Bay in Johore State were all asleep for the night. The entire village was encircled by army troops, and the villagers were herded onto trucks. From these vehicles they saw their dwellings set afire by the soldiers. How painful it was for a person to see his own home deliberately set ablaze! The villagers were all carted off to Kota Tinggi, and it was a sorry-looking sight. Seeing the sad suffering of the Chinese, the wise Sir Tan Cheng Lock thrust himself out to face the challenge of organizing a Malayan Chinese Association, and he negotiated for it with the British authorities. Subsequently, an agreement was reached whereby the government would allot a piece of land to build a new village. Construction costs were to be borne by the Chinese community itself. Under such miserable conditions, the Malayan Chinese Association was set up as a welfare organization to help the Chinese people move into new villages and rebuild their homes. The organization also appealed to the government to give proper treatment to those Chinese who were detained without reason and to others who were expelled from the country.

"Times have changed. After the independence of this country, the Malayan Chinese Association was transferred into a political organization to fight for the basic interests of the Chinese compatriots. It may be recalled that in that year this

organization appealed to the Chinese to apply for civil rights, but this move was satirically opposed by certain people. But today, those Chinese who did not apply for civil rights are faced with numerous difficulties. It may be seen that the farsighted leadership of the Malayan Chinese Association has been proven correct.

"The above are merely some small examples. As a matter of fact, the benefits that the Malayan Chinese Association has gained on behalf of the interests of the entire Chinese society cannot be enumerated. It has made great contributions for the livelihood of the Chinese compatriots."

930

CSO: 4205

CONGRESS LEADER UNHAPPY OVER NEW CONSTITUTION DELAY

BK181437 New Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 12 Nov 80 p 7

[Article by S.A. Siddiqi]

[Text] New Delhi, 11 Nov--Mr B.P. Koirala, former Nepalese prime minister and leader of the banned Nepali Congress, wants installation of an interim government in the Himalayan kingdom to supervise elections under the promised new constitution.

Mr Koirala, who is in New Delhi on his way to Spain and the United States, told Express News Service that installation of an interim government was necessary for supervising the elections because of the "tragic experience we had during the referendum which was held under a very hostile government which continues to be in office."

The Nepali congress leader was unhappy over the delay in drafting the new constitution and continuation of Prime Minister S.B. Thapa's government. "The prime minister is working at cross purposes with the king. He is interested in creating crisis after crisis."

Referring to the promised new constitution, Mr Koirala, who led the multi-party camp in the referendum last summer said that if the new constitution "does not incorporate the sentiments of the powerful minority view, then we will not accept the constitution." The multi-party camp had polled 46 percent votes in the referendum which had asked the Nepalese adults to choose between a reformed Panchayat system of government and a multi-party system.

Mr Koirala, who said that he would meet King Birendra on his return in late November or early December hoped that the new constitution would not be "all bad." The king had promised to hold it on the basis of adult franchise. The cabinet and the prime minister would not be nominated by the king but would be elected by the National Assembly instead. The king would not function as the executive head of the government, Mr Koirala said.

Mr Koirala said that if the king and the democratic forces led by the Nepali congress did not reach agreement, his country would suffer. Farmers' unrest was growing because of the fall in the prices of agricultural produce and rise in prices of other essential commodities. All the extreme left and extreme rightist political groups were "ganging up."

The Nepali congress leader said that most leaders in the multi-party camp believed that the referendum was rigged by the ruling Panchayati camp in its favour, yet the multi-party camp had secured 2.1 of the 4.4 million votes. He felt that the main causes for the people's verdict going against the multi-party system were that the terms of referendum were adversely framed. People were asked to choose between a reformed Panchayati system and a multi-party system. During the campaign, the ruling Panchayat projected the multi-party system to be against the king. Then there was a large scale utilisation of government authority and government means by the ruling Panchayat while the multi-party lacked resources.

CNO: 4220

BRIEFS

FRENCH, ALGERIAN ENVOYS--His Majesty the King on 6 November received letters of credence from the ambassador of France Francis Deloche de Noyelle and the ambassador of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria Boudakdji Raour at special functions held at the Narayanhity Royal Palace in Katmandu. [BK18073] Katmandu THE RISING NEPAL in English 7 Nov 80 p 1 BK]

SOVIET COSMONAUT ON TOUR--Soviet cosmonaut Yuriy Vasiliyevich Malyshev arrived in Katmandu on the morning of 10 November at head of the Soviet cultural delegation participating in "The Days of Culture of the USSR" which begins in Katmandu on 12 November. [Katmandu THE RISING NEPAL in English 11 Nov 80 p 1 BK]

CSG: 4220

EDITORIAL SEES WEAK AMERICA BOWING TO USSR

Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 23 Sep 80 p 3

[Editorial: "The Pact between the Wolf and the Fox"]

[Text] According to a report from Kabul, a Russian military officer seeking political asylum in the American embassy there was returned to the Russians--on the condition that he would neither be harassed nor required to serve in the army.

This event, while being very disgraceful for the United States, has also proved that the United States has succumbed to playing the role of a weaker power. This harassed military officer who might have been forced into the hell of Afghan war must have approached the American embassy with great expectations. When a person disowns his natural citizenship in favor of another country, he places his trust in the humanitarian beliefs of that country. This soldier was under the impression that Russia and America are equal powers, and that America would help him as a friend who has been oppressed by the Russians. However, indecisive America forsook its moral, international and human responsibility and threw the helpless lamb to the wolf. Like a sly fox it tried to make us believe that it had extracted a promise from the wolf that it would neither eat nor harass the lamb. This pact between the fox and the wolf seems to be a turning point in history; this event has proved that America is just a wretched, interior and second-rate power now.

After this unfortunate incident, no oppressed person will ask America to help him against an oppressor. The faith remaining in American character and integrity is gone now. The current image of America is that of a selfish and treacherous power. We believe that had this unlucky Russian soldier approached the God-fearing Mujahidin instead of going to the Americans, he would have been given a much better guarantee for his safety.

7997

CSO: 4203

ACTION AGAINST COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN PAKISTAN URGED

Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 23 Sep 80 p 6

[Article: "Increasing Communist Activities in Pakistan Be Nipped in the Bud; World Islamic Leaders Should Take Firm Action on India, Afghanistan"]

[Text] In general meetings of Nizam Ulama Pakistan [a religious organization] several resolutions were passed in the two sessions presided over by Mullah Mohammad Abdulla and Mullah Mohammad Sharif Vita. In one resolution, concern was expressed at the lack of practice of Islamic laws in the country. The government was warned that such a condition will harm the Islamic religion and the government. In another resolution, anti-Moslem riots in India, Russian aggression in Afghanistan, and Israel's intention to make Jerusalem its capital were strongly condemned. Another resolution urged the Islamic world to take solid steps to alleviate the two problems [India and Afghanistan]. Concern was expressed in another resolution about the underground activities of communists in the country. It was noted that socialist literature was being distributed in colleges and universities to lead the youth astray, and money and arms were being distributed on the border areas of the country. The resolution requested the government to prevent it at once. In another resolution vexation was expressed at the lack of cooperation between the scholars and leaders of the country. All leaders were requested to cooperate to implement the traditional Islamic government system. Another resolution commended the Zakah [giving charity to people as directed in the Koran] Ordinance and asked for necessary theological amendments to it. The death of the following was mourned in another resolution: Sheikh Alakruhman, Mullah Gulam Allah Khan, Mullah Mohammad Hayat, Mullah Abu Bakkar, Mullah Abdul Hai, Mullah Abdul Anandin, Mullah Abdul Shakoor, Mullah Habib al-Rahman, Hadji Mir Wali Nawaz Khosa and famous poet Khan Mohammad Kamtar. Earlier, changes in rules as proposed by the rules committee were accepted. It was decided to support the Afghan Mujahidin against the Russian aggression. Mullah Abdul Baqi was expelled from the group for participating in the advisory council of the governor of the Frontier province.

7997

CSO: 4203

FIGHTING HUNGER THROUGH AGRICULTURAL UPLIFT

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 9 Nov 80 p 4

[Article by Riasat Ali Waraich]

[Text]

THE vast tracts of land in the entire barani area of Rawalpindi Division and other parts of the Punjab where agriculture is solely dependent on rain could have been converted into a granary of food through proper utilisation of existing natural resources backed by the requisite energy and human efforts needed to produce the desired results. However notwithstanding the efforts so far made in this direction, the existence of a large area of almost rugged wasteland continues to pose a serious challenge to the development oriented administration. The task, whatever its magnitude is, however, not beyond the scope of human efforts and ingenuity.

This state of affairs give rise to a number of questions. What is the exact nature and magnitude of the problem? How is that it has not so far been possible to make any headway to meet this challenge? Can it be tackled with the existing resources available within the country? The answer to these and a host of other questions, closely connected with the allied matters, is not far to seek. It lies in a scientific and dispassionate study of facts relating to the nature, characteristics and qualities of the soil together with the environmental, climatic or, in other words, geophysical conditions of the landscape, the subject matter of this study.

The findings resulting from this study may, however, differ from man to man depending on the way of thinking, approach and mental disposition of each of its student. A firm believer of planning may attribute the failings in this direction to the absence of adequate planning. A person with a political instinct may lay the blame at the door of his rivals in the profession of politics. An advocate of pan-Islamism may seek solution of the matter in the co-operation and help

of the Muslim countries having abundance of wealth which they may invest on the improvement and development of agriculture here keeping in view their future requirements of food by the end of 20th century.

There are, however, certain hard facts which need must be kept in mind by every one while undertaking the study of this subject. The barani region of this Division is mostly mountainous. The rainfall here is between 20" to 60" per annum. The area is affected by water and wind and the surface of earth at most places is without vegetative cover which should protect it against erosion. Moreover the agricultural techniques in vogue in the region are out-dated and primitive. The net result of all these factors combined together is gradual decrease in the quality of soil and increase in the pace of land erosion. Gullied tracts of land are a common sight in the area. They present the most acute stage of land erosion. According to the findings of the Barani Commission the loss of land due to soil erosion is estimated to be 12,000 to 30,000 acre per year. It is a colossal loss.

Therefore, the task of checking the land erosion occurring on such a large scale would not only require immense resources but a well-prepared plan of action to tackle the problem in a big way.

Before assessing the impact of the measures so far taken to overcome the problem of land erosion, it is essential to examine those measures which have so far been taken in this direction. The Soil Conservation Directorate of the Punjab Government, Rawalpindi having objectives identical with the recommendations made by the Barani Commission is entrusted with this work. Its objective is to adopt anti-erosion measures through conservation of soil and

water so as to minimise the potential losses of natural resources. For the attainment of this objective the Directorate has adopted the following techniques:-

SOIL CONSERVATION TECHNIQUES: (a) "Wet-band", terracing and levelling of land and popularising of these techniques. (b) Afforestation and check damming (c) Improvement and development of ponds (d) 'Kas' training by afforestation along the bank of nullahs or through water diversion by spurs and walls. (e) Gully plugging (f) Reclamation of eroded land.

MINI DAMS. The most important of these techniques is the construction of mini dams. It not only conserves water resources but also helps a lot in keeping the land immune from erosion. During the last two years 18 mini dams were constructed by the Directorate which gave Rs. 33, 12465/- to the peasants, cultivators and small owners who were motivated to extend co-operation by supply of the man-power, i.e. labour required for the construction of these dams. The small projects with low cost are expected to serve as an effective check against the land erosion. In addition the yield per acre would increase in the commanded area of nearly 2,000 acres. Orchards and fruit trees are also being planted. The Department has planted 30,000 saplings of different types of trees including shisham and mulberry. The accumulated water is also being used for fish culture and drinking purposes as well.

VILLAGE PONDS. The other important measure taken by the Directorate is the construction of ponds extending almost the same benefits which accrue from the mini dams as enumerated above. In Murree Tehsil specially because of the mountainous terrain, rain water disappears in no time. The inhabitants of barani area have to fetch

drinking water from distant places. The Soil Conservation Directorate has during the last two years constructed 19 ponds wherein rainwater is stored and used for crops and drinking purposes. These ponds can be used for breeding fish as well. The villagers desirous of constructing a pond are given a subsidy to meet 75 per cent of the expenditure on the construction of each pond.

The above mentioned measures despite being of immense import insofar as they are aimed at educating the rural people and orientate their outlook towards development and progress did not have the requisite impact on the over-all economic conditions of the people of barani areas. For that purpose the Directorate shall have to devise ways and means of tackling this stupendous task through well-planned projects.

A PROJECT ON ANVIL A comprehensive plan for soil conservation is, however, on the anvil. The plan prepared in the Provincial Government's Directorate in Rawalpindi spreads over four barani areas. Two of these are located in Rawalpindi Division, one covers the catchment area of Sohawa Markaz in the district of Jhelum and the

other is in Tehsil Talagang and comprises the catchment area of Kot Sarang. Of the remaining two areas one each is in the district of Sialkot and Miranwalli known as Chammal and Kot Chandna-Qamar Mashani respectively.

The total area of catchment in Sohawa Markaz is 47,800 acres out of which about 24,000 acres are cultivated and the rest is uncultivated. Similarly, out of the total area of 3,15,457 acres in respect of Kot Sarang catchment the area of 1,09,699 is cultivated and the rest is not available for cultivation. In the third project area of Kot Chandna-Qamar Mashani catchment area the total land is 2,37,341 acres of which 1,25,750 acres are cultivated which 1,41,796 acres are not available for cultivation. In Shakargarh portion of the project the total area is 1,66,244 acres, out of which 1,09,699 acres are cultivated.

Total expenditure on this 6-year project is estimated to be Rs. 11,18,40,719. It includes soil conservation, live-stock development, agricultural extension and agricultural credit. This expenditure may, however, increase with a corresponding increase in energy cost which, without taking into account the consequences of Iraq-Iran war is,

by the end of 20th century, calculated to be four to five times the oil bill in dollars spent in 1973. Already the world is rightly believed to be faced with a sort of grotesque and dangerous imbalance between what it spends on arms and what it spends on fighting hunger. Therefore, the project should be implemented as soon as possible.

With the passage of time the increased energy cost combined with the impact of inflationary trends in general and the increasing cost of capital goods in particular, it may become increasingly difficult to act upon the plans of this nature due to financial stringency.

Already probable changes in the world's population, natural resources and environment by the year 2000 hold a gloomy outlook for the world which will be more crowded, more polluted, less stable ecologically and more vulnerable to disruption than the world we live in today. Therefore, in the light of these facts the plans aimed at agricultural development brook no delay. Paucity of funds should not be allowed to stand in its way. The fight against hunger through agricultural development measures is in the interests of the people, country and humanity at large.

ENERGY OUTLOOK, LONG TERM NEEDS EXAMINED

Karachi DAWN in English 14 Nov 80 p 7

[Editorial]

[Text] **T**HE International Atomic Energy Agency's assessment that Pakistan will need 27,000 megawatts of installed power capacity by the end of the century should be sufficient to send a shiver down any consumer's spine. The present capacity is some 3,500 megawatts and it has been estimated that it will still be less than 6,000 megawatts by the end of the Fifth Plan period. The Government estimates that by that time the demand for electricity will be less than 4,000 megawatts, the excess generation capacity being attributed to the variable nature of hydro-capacity. There are, of course, several ways to look at the rate at which demand is expected to increase. Government estimates have been drawn up keeping in mind the "historical growth rates of demand of WAPDA and KESC systems", which may be interpreted to mean one of

several things. History, unfortunately, has little bearing in this particular case and the actual demand within the country should be estimated on a basis which takes into full account not only such things as the number of applications for power connections pending with the authorities but also the possibility of a higher pace of industrial-agricultural development and more rapid urbanisation.

Pakistan should, therefore, adopt a long-term view and consider ways in which energy requirements for power generation can be met. One pre-requirement is that the present enormous wastage should be curtailed — a third of generated power is lost at the moment. More efficient production is also a significant contributor to more power availability, and it has been shown, by WAPDA for one, that this is possible. Apart from this, energy for power generation has to be

located and used as efficiently as possible: coal and nuclear power plants are two obvious contenders as major sources in the future. Coal resources at the moment are almost ignored and, even though local coal may not be of a high grade, this waste should be deplored. Efforts should be made to exploit coal reserves, for it is certain that rising energy prices in future will make this an attractive fuel economically. Leaving aside for the moment the possibility of major technological breakthroughs which might make power generation easier, perhaps through exploitation of renewable energy sources, the authorities should in the meantime consider how best to use the modest innovations which have already been introduced. If villages can be supplied self-contained non-conventional units for instance, this will lessen pressure on the national grid.

PAKISTAN

BRIEFS

SLOWED AFGHAN REPATRIATION ALLEGATION --New Delhi, 19 Nov (AFP)--Pakistan was preventing Afghan refugees to return home by moving those who were eager to go back farther into the interior, the English daily, TIMES OF INDIA, reported today quoting diplomatic circles. The paper stated that reports from Pakistan also spoke of relief material meant for refugees finding their way to the open market and discovery of arms with Chinese markings inside refugee camps. The TIMES noted that these were part of a series of developments which underscore the tenuous nature of Islamabad's credibility in its role in the Afghan crisis. The paper also said that Pakistani authorities recently seized a large number of Iranian magazines and pamphlets in the northwest frontier province. These documents were unreservedly hostile to the military regime in Islamabad, it added. [Text]
[BK190629 Hong Kong AFP in English 0602 GMT 19 Nov 80]

COOPERATION ACCORD WITH CZECHOSLOVAKIA--Pakistan and Czechoslovakia have signed a new agreement for the year 1981 under which the two countries will cooperate in the fields of culture, education and archaeology. [BK131137 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 12 Nov 80 BK]

ENVOY TO MONGOLIA--It was officially announced that Pakistan's ambassador-designate to the Soviet Union Iftikhar Ali has been concurrently accredited as ambassador to Mongolia also. [BK190043 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 15 Nov 80 BK]

TAX ACCORD WITH SAUDI ARABIA--Pakistan and Saudi Arabia on 18 November signed an agreement on avoidance of double taxation on income of their national airlines. The agreement was signed in Riyadh by the Saudi foreign minister and the Pakistan ambassador to Saudi Arabia. [Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 18 Nov 80 BK]

CSO: 4203

BRIEFS

BRITISH GRANT--An agreement was signed in Colombo 12 November in terms of which the British Government will provide of nearly 2.905 million pound sterling to the government to be allocated toward the cost of diesel locomotives, spares, servicing and training to be supplied to the government railways. The British grant is equivalent to some 125 million rupees. [Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 13 Nov 80 BK]

JAPANESE GRANT--An agreement for a Japanese grant of 2 billion yen equivalent to a little over 159 million rupees was signed in Colombo 11 November. The money will be utilized by the government for the purchase of fertilisers. The current grant shows an increase of 200 million yen compared with the grant of 1.8 billion yen provided last year for increasing food production. [Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 12 Nov 80 BK]

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